



Patrick J. Connolly
Chief of Police

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Laura Kammin
Pollution Prevention Program Specialist
Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant
University of Illinois
1101 W. Peabody Dr.
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Ms. Kammin:

The Urbana Police Department is interested in establishing a permanent program to collect expired and unused pharmaceuticals from area residents. Under the Controlled Substances Act, only law enforcement agencies may legally collect controlled substances from the end user. The Urbana Police Department wishes to partner with Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, other local law enforcement agencies, and other community partners to develop the Champaign-Urbana Area Medicine Take-Back Program.

The proposed program would include the following:

- One locked collection box, purchased by Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, to be installed at the lobby entrance of the Urbana Police Department. The box is steel gauge (160 pounds) and will be bolted to the floor. The front desk of the police department is staffed 24 hours a day.
- Materials collected would include controlled and non-controlled pharmaceuticals and over-the-counter medications.
- Personal care products, illicit drugs, and sharps will not be accepted. Items that are not accepted will be listed clearly on the box.
- The pharmaceuticals will be collected, stored, and transported by officers of the Urbana Police Department.
- Urbana Police Officers will transport the collected pharmaceuticals to Covanta Energy in Indianapolis, IN for destruction, in conjunction with officers from other local law enforcement agencies, on at least a biannual basis.
- Materials will be destroyed using high-heat incineration at Covanta Energy. The police department will register for Covanta's Rx4Safety Program, which provides free incineration.

The Urbana Police Department views the proper and safe disposal of pharmaceuticals as a critical program to help protect public health and safety and the health of the environment. Costs incurred for staff time and mileage to conduct the program need to be funded externally. We appreciate the efforts of Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant to secure \$10,000/year in funds from community partners and sponsors of the C-U Area Medicine Take-Back program. If these funds can be secured, the Urbana Police Department will host a medicine collection box and transport the collected medicines as noted above as partners of the C-U Area Medicine Take-Back Program.

Sincerely,

Lt. Richard Surles
Urbana Police Department