

What will happen to the waste medications?

Medicines will be transported by a hazardous waste contractor to an incinerator. Currently, incineration is the best available technology for disposing of medications.

Disposals of waste medications down the sewer is undesirable because the facilities that treat wastewater may not be able to remove pollutants of concern, such as endocrine-disrupting compounds. Pollution of waste water has been demonstrated to cause adverse effects to fish and other aquatic wildlife. When the water is eventually reused, it can also cause unintentional human exposure to chemicals in medications.

Disposal of waste medications in a landfill is undesirable because medicines can end up in the landfill leachate (water that comes in contact with the trash). Waste water treatment facilities that receive and process leachate may not be able to remove the contaminants.



Where:

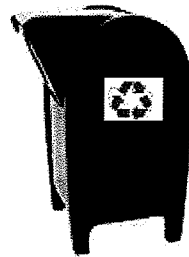
Located outside the:
Ogle County Correctional Center (Jail)
(Next to the Old Ogle County Courthouse)
107 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL

Hours:

Open continuously, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Questions?

Call:
Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.
815-732-4020
or visit www.oglecountysolidwaste.org.



2011

Waste Medicine Disposal Program



Sponsored by
Ogle County Sheriff's Department
and
Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department

909 W. Pines Road
Oregon, IL 61061
815-732-4020
www.oglecountysolidwaste.org



Ogle County is providing residents the opportunity to properly and safely dispose of unwanted, unused and expired medicines.

This waste medicine collection program is sponsored by the Ogle County Sheriff's Department and the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department.

Who can use the drop-off to dispose of waste medicine?

The program is open to **Ogle County residents only**. If you are not an Ogle County resident, contact your county, local law enforcement agency or check the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency website for disposal options.

Medicine will be accepted from households only; pharmaceuticals from businesses will not be accepted.

Materials accepted

Medicine from households will be accepted, including:

- * **Prescription and over-the-counter medications**
- * **Vitamins**
- * **Supplements**
- * **Pet medications**

Medicine will be accepted in any form,

including blister packs, capsules, creams, gels, inhalers, liquids, patches, pills, powder, sprays, vials, etc.

Place pills in a sealable plastic bag and place into drop box. Recycle empty pill bottles in your regular recycling program.

To deposit liquid medicine, leave in bottle, black out personal information, seal in plastic bag and deposit into drop box.

Medicines are accepted free of charge.

No medicine from businesses

(including healthcare facilities, long-term care facilities, pharmacies, pharmaceutical representatives, doctor's offices and veterinary clinics.)

Items NOT accepted:

- * **Needles or Sharps**
- * **Thermometers**
- * **Hydrogen Peroxide**
- * **Aerosol Cans**
- * **Medicine from Businesses or Clinics**

What are the problems with unwanted and unused medicine?

Health and safety threats

Because disposal options have been unavailable or inconvenient, consumers

have either stockpiled unwanted controlled substances or disposed of them in improper ways, such as flushing them into the water supply. This can lead to drug diversion or water pollution.

Unwanted, expired and unused medications in the home pose safety and health threats. Storage of medicine can lead to abuse or poisoning.

Prescription drug abuse is a growing problem, especially among teens. The majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs get them from family and friends and from the home medicine cabinet.

Prescriptions are only safe for the person they are prescribed for. Pharmaceutical drugs can be just as dangerous as street drugs when taken without a prescription or a doctor's supervision.

Environmental concerns

Disposal of unwanted medications also raises environmental concerns. Medicines flushed down the drain or disposed of in the trash can contaminate bodies of water, harm wildlife and end up in drinking water supplies.

