

**Do not flush
prescription drugs
down the toilet or
sink!**



Provided by:

Winnetka's Environmental and
Forestry Commissioners and

Village of Winnetka
Fire Department
428 Green Bay Road
Winnetka, IL 60093

www.villageofwinnetka.org

Monday through Friday
8:00–Noon & 1–4:30PM

847-501-6029

**VILLAGE OF WINNETKA
SAFE DRUG DISPOSAL**

The Village of Winnetka offers residents a free, safe, and easy way to dispose of unwanted medicine. The Fire Department accepts most types of prescription medications for disposal. Using the drop-off program will help keep our water clean and will help to mitigate pollution our lakes, rivers and streams.

The Winnetka Fire Department, 428 Green Bay Road, will accept prescription drugs for disposal in their original container Monday through Friday from 8:00 – Noon & 1-4:30 PM.



Please conceal or remove any personal information, including Rx number by covering with black permanent marker or duct tape, or by scratching it off.

KEEP OUR WATER SAFE



Many Winnetka residents probably have expired or unused prescriptions or over-the-counter drugs in their homes and a common method for disposal of these medications is by flushing them down the toilet or rinsing them down the sink.

However, wastewater treatments plants are not designed to break down pharmaceuticals from wastewater. This means that a portion of the drugs that enter our wastewater go directly into Lake Michigan or into our rivers or streams, affecting both drinking water and aquatic life.

Recent research conducted by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Geological Survey found substantial amounts of antibiotics and steroidal hormones in rivers, lakes, and wells from samples analyzed in 36 states. For more information, visit epa.gov/ppcp.

While the Fire Department is pleased to accept most prescription medications, Drug Enforcement Agency laws to not allow the disposal of narcotic medicines such as Demerol, Percocet, or Oxycontin.

Acceptable Items:

- Unused/Expired prescription medications
- Expired over-the-counter medications
- Residential sharps (needles/syringes)

Unacceptable Items:

- Pharmaceutical Controlled Substances*
- Non-prescription liquids
- Household chemical waste

*The following programs allow for controlled substances:

Save a Star Collection Program – saveastar.org

DEA Take-Back Days – deadiversion.usdoj.gov/schedules. Visit deadiversion.usdoj.gov for a list of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) regulated pharmaceuticals.

This program is for residentially-generated unused prescriptions and expired over-the-counter drugs.

