



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

Press Release

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MWRD to collect unwanted meds Sat., Sept. 27

To prevent or reduce accidental contamination of streams, rivers and lakes, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago (MWRD) is joining the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration's (U.S. DEA's) national unwanted medicine "Take-Back" initiative on Sat., Sept. 27, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. to collect unwanted medicine at three MWRD facilities:

- Stickney Water Reclamation Plant, 6001 W. Pershing Road, Cicero
- O'Brien Water Reclamation Plant (formerly North Side), 3500 Howard Street, Skokie
- Calumet Water Reclamation Plant, 400 East 130th Street, Chicago (Enter from North on Ellis Ave. at 130th St. because of plant construction)

The MWRD has participated in all of the U.S. DEA's nationally-organized prescription drug take back day programs and has removed hundreds of pounds of medicines from the waste stream.

The MWRD's wastewater treatment facilities are not designed to remove pharmaceutical products if they are poured down a drain or flushed down a toilet. The chemicals can work their way into lakes or streams, so this special collection gives the community an environmentally-friendly opportunity to properly dispose of expired or unwanted medications.

Additional information about the bi-annual pharmaceutical disposal collection can be found at http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/.

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Our Water Environment: **Take it personally**

Established in 1889, the MWRD (www.mwrdd.org) is an award-winning, special purpose government agency responsible for wastewater treatment and stormwater management in Cook County, Illinois.