

Protocol
Yellow Jug Old Drugs ®
Collection of Unused/Unwanted Drugs
Community-Based Program coordinated by Great Lakes Clean Water Organization
A Michigan Based, Non Profit Volunteer Corporation

1. 2.5 gal Yellow Jugs(s) with dissolving gel in bottom placed at participating pharmacies. Beginning weight of Jug with dissolving gel is 5.0 lbs
2. Customers may bring in unused/unwanted/expired drugs to participating pharmacies (non-controlled substances only) Household drugs only. No medical waste, sharps or drugs from health facilities. No hazardous materials.(see list of accepted/not accepted items)
3. Customers will bring unused/unwanted drugs to Pharmacy in original container when possible.
4. Pharmacist will advise customer as to what items can or cannot be accepted. Items not accepted will be kept by customer for proper disposal.
5. Accepted unused/unwanted drugs will be deposited in jug(s) provided.
6. Drugs should be removed from original containers/packaging when feasible. Empty drug vials/packaging will be taken by customer. Customers should remove identifying marks and labels. Customers are encouraged to recycle empty vials and other packaging materials at a community based program that accepts them.
7. Customers will receive book mark/thank you/bag insert.
8. 2.5 gal Yellow Jug(s) will be picked at Pharmacy on a set schedule. Pick up will be provided by a registered/approved volunteer of Great Lakes Clean Water (see requirements for Volunteer Drug Disposal Tech. below)
9. Jug(s) will be weighed at pharmacy. Route Log will be signed by volunteer Drug Disposal Tech and Pharmacist or Pharmacy staff member. Jugs will be placed in mobile container for removal.
10. Replacement 2.5 gal Jug(s) will be left with pharmacy.
11. The Yellow Jug Old Drugs containers and contents are picked up at pharmacies and are then transported to a Covanta Energy Waste-to-Energy Facility for secure and assured destruction. Covanta Energy facilities meet all requirements of the DNRE and EPA. High Temperature facilities are recommended by the World Health Organization as the most thorough and environmentally responsible method of destroying unused/unwanted Drugs.

12. Controlled substances may only be collected by Law Enforcement Agencies with approval of the DEA. In cooperation with the Yellow Jug Old Drugs program a growing number of Law Enforcement Agencies are collecting Controlled Substances, including; Michigan State Police Alpena Post, HUNT other MSP Posts, and County and City Law Enforcement Agencies.
13. Law enforcement is advised to collect and dispose of controlled substances collected according to DEA and DNRE guidelines. Recommended method is to dispose of at a DNRE or other EPA approved facility for secure and complete destruction. Information on Law Enforcement agencies collecting and disposing of controlled substances according to DEA and DNRE guidelines will also be posted to website GLCW website as received.

Outcomes

1. Safe and approved drug collection/disposal program
2. Will keep drugs out of surface water, ground water and municipal water systems
3. Safer, cleaner environment
- 4 Will reduce the availability of unused/unwanted controlled substances in homes thereby reducing illegal activity associated with such.
5. Pharmacies will benefit from increased customer satisfaction. They will also benefit from increased traffic flow created by collection program and the additional publicity generated.

Volunteer Drug Disposal Technician requirements

Must be a registered and approved volunteer of GLCW

Must have clear criminal background check

Must have valid driver's license, Chauffeur License endorsement preferred

Must have completed safety training

Must have completed training of DNRE Universal and Pharmaceutical Waste collection regulations.

Must have completed training of DEA regulations regarding Controlled Substance collection regulations

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