



Town of Darien

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Health Department

Darien Now Has a Location to Dispose of Unwanted Medication

DARIEN, CT – Citizens looking to dispose of unwanted, excess and expired prescription and over-the-counter medications may now utilize the safe, anonymous and secure permanent drop off box located in the lobby of the Darien Police Department at 25 Hecker Ave.

The Darien Health Department has partnered with the Police Department to establish a permanent medication collection/disposal program. This will help in reducing the supply of drugs that can potentially harm teens and adults while also protecting the environment from the improper disposal of these drugs.

According to the 2011 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), more than six million Americans abuse prescription medication. In fact, 7.4 percent of youths, ranging from 12 to 17 years old, reported non-medical use of prescription drugs during the past year.

Properly disposing unwanted drugs is everyone's responsibility as a matter of public health and safety. More than 70 percent of young people abusing prescription pain relievers get them through friends or family, a statistic that includes raiding the family medicine cabinet. Now Darien citizens won't have to wait for a specific "take-back day" to clean out their medicine cabinets. Discarded medications are processed as "abandoned property" and safely incinerated.

The lobby of Darien Police Headquarters is open to the public 24 hours every day. Get rid of unwanted, expired or unused medication now. They can be dropped off FREE with no questions asked and no forms to fill out!

Please do not put liquid medication or needles in the drop box!

- Needles may be discarded by placing them in an empty heavy gauge plastic bottle with a screw top lid, such as a laundry detergent bottle, duct taping the top into place and disposing the secure bottle with household trash. **DO NOT PUT THIS BOTTLE WITH RECYCLEABLE WASTE!**
- Liquid medication may also be disposed of with house hold waste.

Under NO circumstances should any medication be disposed of in a sink or toilet!

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