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## Medication disposal to be available in Champaign-Urbana

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CHAMPAIGN — Area residents will have an opportunity to safely dispose of their unwanted or expired medications 24 hours a day, seven days a week beginning Friday.

An initiative called the C-U Area Medicine Take-back Program is collecting and properly disposing of pharmaceuticals in an effort to help prevent drug abuse, to reduce the accidental poisoning of children and pets, and to limit the impact on the environment.

Residents may drop off their medications in the collection boxes in the lobbies at these locations:

- Champaign Police Department, 82 E. University Ave., Champaign.
- Urbana Police Department, 400 S. Vine St., Urbana.
- University of Illinois Police Department, 1110 W. Springfield Ave., Urbana.

The program will accept prescription and over-the-counter medicines, liquid medication in leak-proof containers and veterinary pharmaceuticals.

The program will not accept illicit drugs, syringes, needles, thermometers, or bloody and infectious waste.

No personal information remaining on the containers will be used, and the privacy of any personal information will be maintained.

Any drugs that are collected will be incinerated, which is the environmentally preferred disposal method.

“Previous drug disposal collection days have been very successful, and we urge all residents to take advantage of this program to rid their home medicine cabinets of these unused, unwanted and expired medications,” said Champaign Police Chief Anthony Cobb in a written release.

The program is a partnership between the Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant, Champaign Police Department, Urbana Police Department, University of Illinois Police Department, Champaign County sheriff’s office, the National Prescription Pill and Drug Disposal Program, the cities of Champaign and Urbana, Illinois American Water, the University of Illinois Student Sustainability Committee, the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, Champaign-Urbana Public Health Department, WCIA and the Prairie Rivers Network.

For more information about the new program call Angela Adams at (217) 403-4780.

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