



2012 Wisconsin Household Pharmaceutical Waste Collection Study

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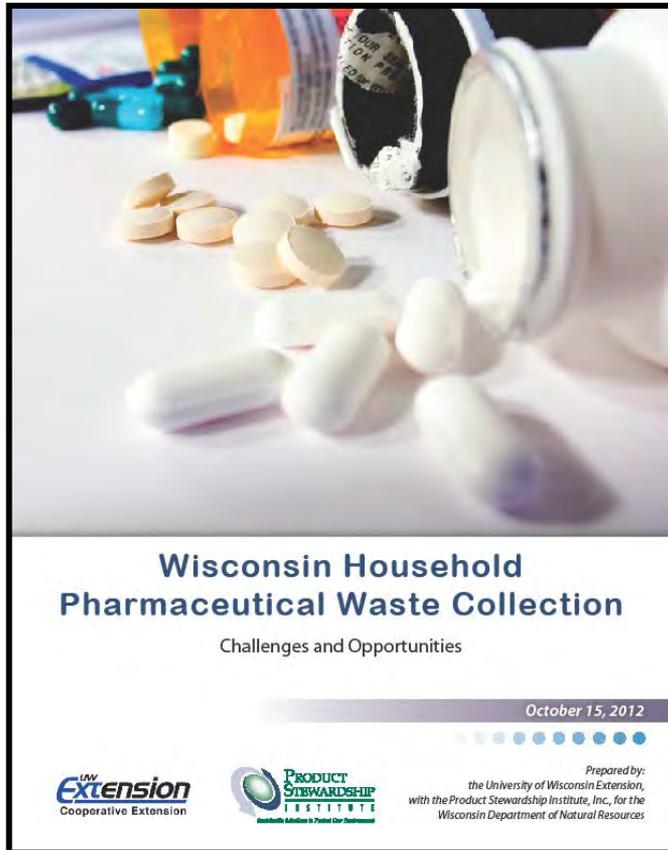
Waste and Materials Management

May 2013

Solid Waste Interested Parties meeting



Household Pharmaceutical Waste



Where does it go?

How much is generated?

What inhibits collection?

Where do our unused drugs go?



Vs.



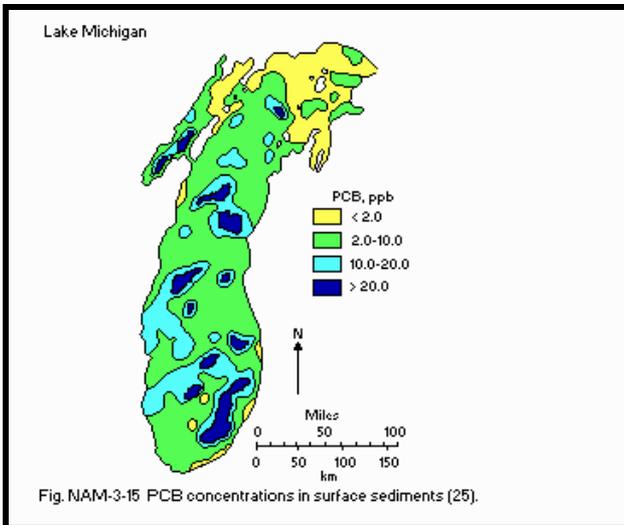
Environmental concerns



Documented effects on aquatic life

Uncertain effects on humans

Measurable amounts in surface waters



Public health concerns



Abuse, overdoses, poisonings

Household collections



93,500 lb in 2011

How much waste is there?

**Sold in
Wisconsin**



13.1 million lb/yr

**Wasted in
Wisconsin**



**4.4 million lb/yr
(1/3 of sold)**

**Collected in
Wisconsin**



**93,500 lb/2011
(2% of wasted)**

Challenges

Destruction



What can you do to help?

REUSE pharmaceutical waste

- Talk to your pharmacist about your medications to ensure they can be reused as prescribed by your practitioner.
- Only take medications that have been prescribed for your use.
- When trying a new medication, ask your doctor to prescribe a limited quantity to use if it will work for you.
- For more ideas, go to the OAG website <http://oag.wi.gov> and search for "health care waste" files, under the "Resource Health Care Waste" section, click on "Pharmaceuticals."

STORE and DISPOSE of pharmaceuticals properly

- Secure all medications to protect children and pets.
- Do not flush medications or turn them in to a landfill.
- Take your unwanted medications to a local medication collection site. Ask your pharmacist for local sites or search the Wisconsin list at <http://ohw.wisconsin.gov/ohw/medcollection>.
- If a local collection site is not available, remove or crush out personal information, mix with kitty litter or coffee grounds, seal in a container such as a coffee can, and dispose in the trash.
- Do not put sharps in the trash; this is illegal in Wisconsin. For sharps options, go to <http://oag.wi.gov> and search for "health care waste". Then, under the "Resource Health Care Waste" section, click on "Medical sharps."




Awareness

Regulations



Funding



Amount of Collected Drugs (if they are not sorted, please enter just the total):

	Controlled Substances	Non-Controlled Substances
Weight (lbs)		
# of Prescriptions		
Average % of Prescriptions Leftover		

Data collection



Better environment, better communities



Effective and sustainable collection system

Fewer environmental and human health impacts

Increased business opportunities