



For Immediate Release

July 27, 2009

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Erin Robinson
Communication Coordinator
Waste Commission of Scott County
563.388.1403 (office)
563.349.3345 (mobile)
erobinson@wastecom.com

OPERATION MEDICINE CABINET OFFERS FREE, SAFE DISPOSAL

DAVENPORT, Iowa—Area residents can safely dispose of old medications, exchange mercury thermometers for a digital, pick up and drop off sharps containers, and have data-sensitive documents shredded free of charge during Operation Medicine Cabinet, September 24-26, 2009.

Operation Medicine Cabinet will be held in Eldridge, Bettendorf and Davenport from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the following locations:

Thursday, September 24
Medic EMS Facility, LeClaire Road & Highway 61, Eldridge

Friday, September 25
Bettendorf Fire Station, Middle Road & Crow Creek Road, Bettendorf

Saturday, September 26
Scott Area Recycling Center, 5640 Carey Avenue, Davenport

Following are some rules and guidelines for the event:

- Sharps must be in a sealed, rigid container
- Mercury thermometers must be packaged to prevent breakage
- Only one digital thermometer will be given per household
- Documents for shredding should be in bags or cardboard boxes; containers will not be returned
- Only paper documents will be accepted for shredding
- Staples and paperclips in paper documents are acceptable

- Binders and metal rings in paper documents are not acceptable
- Event is free of charge and open to residents of eastern Iowa and western Illinois
- Business waste will not be accepted

Properly disposing of pharmaceuticals and medications reduces the risk of mis-medication, accidental poisoning, theft/drug abuse and pollution of our waterways & groundwater caused by flushing. In addition, the event encourages safe and proper disposal of medical sharps and mercury thermometers and reduces the risk of identity theft through document shredding. Scott County law-enforcement officials supervise the disposal of all materials.

This event is sponsored by: City of Bettendorf, Document Destruction and Recycling Services, Medic EMS, Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Scott County Health Department, Scott County Sheriff's Office, Waste Commission of Scott County and Western Illinois Area Agency on Aging. Residents can call Waste Commission of Scott County at 563-381-1300 or visit www.wastecom.com for additional information.

This is the fourth annual Operation Medicine Cabinet. Last year's event yielded 10,847 pounds of material, which included approximately 1,029 pounds of pharmaceuticals, 537 pounds of sharps, 14 pounds of mercury thermometers and 9,211 pounds of documents for shredding. The three-day event served 941 households.

###

Fourth Annual

OPERATION MEDICINE CABINET

September 24, 25 and 26, 2009

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Thursday, September 24

Medic EMS Facility

LeClaire Rd. & Hwy. 61
Eldridge, Iowa

Friday, September 25

Bettendorf Fire Station

Middle Rd. & Crow Creek Rd.
Bettendorf, Iowa

Saturday, September 26

Waste Commission of Scott County

5640 Carey Avenue
Davenport, Iowa

Pharmaceutical Disposal

Safely dispose of unused or outdated prescription or non-prescription medications such as pills, capsules and liquids. Flushing medications poses risks to our local water supplies, fish and wildlife.

Mercury Thermometer Exchange

Exchange an old mercury thermometer for a new digital thermometer at no charge. Package mercury thermometer to prevent breakage. One digital per household.
Provided by Waste Commission of Scott County.

Sharps Container Pick-up/Drop-off

Dispose of residential sharps (needles, lancets, syringes) and receive a new rigid sharps container at no charge. Please bring sharps in a sealed, rigid container.
Provided by Waste Commission of Scott County.

Document Destruction

Free shredding of paper documents with sensitive or personal data. Bring in bags or cardboard boxes. Staples & paperclips acceptable. No binders or metal rings.
Provided by Document Destruction & Recycling Services.

This free event is open to residents of eastern Iowa and western Illinois. No business waste will be accepted.

For more information contact Waste Commission of Scott County

563-381-1300 or www.wastecom.com

Sponsored By

