

Contacts: Matt Allen, Environmental Health Supervisor (616)494-5569 mallen@miottawa.org; Kristina Wieghmink, Communications Specialist (616)494-5597 kwieghmink@miottawa.org

# News Release

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## **Medication Disposal Site No Longer Available**

**GRAND HAVEN –** The Ottawa County Department of Public Health (OCDPH) Grand Haven office no longer offers medication disposal services. Due to space limitations, they are prevented from collecting at their new location, 1207 South Beechtree Street. To find other Ottawa County medication disposal locations, please visit www.miOttawa.org/eco

# **eco**Ottawa



Free disposal of unwanted or expired prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications are accepted at participating locations.

During 2010 to 2013, OCDPH Disposal Program served **26,387**Ottawa County residents to process and properly dispose of **653,246 total pounds of hazardous waste**; **5,989 pounds**were prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs.

### Prevent drug misuse and abuse

Each year in the U.S. more than 71,000 children aged 18 and younger are seen in emergency rooms for unintentional overdoses of prescription and over-the-counter drugs.\* To help prevent drug misuse and abuse, please dispose of unwanted or expired prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs at any participating location at no charge. Don't ever flush medications. They contaminate our drinking water and pose a threat to people's health. Improper disposal of any household hazardous waste can pollute the environment. Some items can be reused, recycled or must be managed properly as hazardous waste. "Every team member of the OCDPH Environmental Health Disposal Program has worked very hard to ensure proper disposal of hazardous waste, unwanted medications and

recyclables," said Matt Allen, REHS; environmental health team supervisor. "When I think of how much material the site attendants handle and how many people they see, it boggles my mind. Their diligent work has brought this program where it is today." Environmental Health staff, the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office, participating disposal locations and the work of residents help keep Ottawa County's environment clean from pollutants and drinking waters safe. For more information on the OCDPH Disposal Program and the Resource Recovery Center hours and locations, visit <a href="http://ow.ly/rwxPb">http://ow.ly/rwxPb</a>

**Medication Disposal Sites** Please remove pills from bottles and place in a sealable plastic bag. Liquids or gels may be kept in original packages with the labels blackened or removed. <a href="www.miOttawa.org/eco">www.miOttawa.org/eco</a>

#### **Law Enforcement Offices**

Zeeland City 29 W. Main St West Olive Sheriff's Office 12220 Fillmore St Holland City Police Dept 89 W. 8th St Grand Haven Township 13250 168th Ave Coopersville City 289 Danforth St Georgetown Township 3100 Port Sheldon Rd

### **Participating Pharmacies**

Tasker Drug Store Coopersville
Pfaff Pharmacy Grand Haven
Family Fare Holland, Zeeland & Allendale
D&W Fresh Market Holland & Grand Haven

#### Participating Health Department Office 12251 James St, Holland

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<b>eco</b> Ottawa	2010	2011	2012	2013	Total
Resource Recovery Service Centers Customers	13,101	12,958	13,429	13,224	52,712
Pounds of Liquid Hazardous Waste Collected	40,400	89,656	66,200	78,728	274,984
Pounds of Solid Hazardous Waste Collected	40,962	71,270	93,021	103,605	<b>30</b> 8,8 <b>5</b> 8
Pounds of Pesticides Collected	10,938	11,207	22,059	25,200	69,404
Total pounds of Hazardous Waste Processed*	92,300	172,133	181,280	207,533	653,246
Cubic Yards of Recyclables Collected	3,415	3,606	3,450	3,420	13,891
Recycling Memberships	601	659	728	676	2,664

4 Resource Recovery Service Centers and over a dozen medication drop off locations are available to residents.

Most services are offered at no charge. www.miOttawa.org/eco

\*Of the total pounds of hazardous waste processed 2010 - 2013, below are the pounds for medication disposal.

- 2010 640 lbs
- 2011 789 lbs
- 2012 2,300
- 2013 2,260 lbs (Includes the Ottawa County Sheriff's Office)

TOTAL - 5,989 lbs

#### Sources

\*www.drugfree.org Image courtesy of Ezran Kamal





**Our Vision – Healthy People**