



News Release

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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Steinhaus Announces Safe Medication Disposal Day event

*New event allows residents to bring
old and unused medications for proper disposal*

Poughkeepsie... Dutchess County Executive William R. Steinhaus has announced a safe and environmentally responsible way for county residents to discard their unused and/or expired medications. *Safe Medication Disposal Day* events will be held on October 3rd and November 7th, 2009 at the Dutchess County Resource Recovery Agency (DCRRA) in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

“Residents can take this opportunity to prevent unused or expired prescription and over-the-counter medications from ending up in the hands of children or leaching into groundwater drinking sources if discarded improperly,” said County Executive Steinhaus. “This is another important initiative in our *Dutchess Goes Green* agenda.”

Any prescription or over-the-counter pills, ointments, lotions and liquids can be brought to the *Safe Medication Disposal Day*. Liquid medications should be in its original packaging and inside sealable plastic bags. Pet medications are welcome as well. Special staffing will be present to mark out any personal identification from all medicine containers. The entire container along with its medication will be placed into a sealed waste receptacle.

Law enforcement will be on site to control the collection and witness the permanent disposal of these medications. Medications will be disposed of efficiently and safely at the DCRRA’s *Energy-From-Waste* facility, ensuring the medications never wind up in a landfill or groundwater.

“We are very pleased to offer this new opportunity to the public,” said DCRRRA Executive Director William Calogero. “Now, rather than flushing medications down the toilet or pouring them down the drain, people can ensure their families’ safety and help protect our environment by taking advantage of our *Safe Medication Disposal Day* events.”

There is no charge for this event but registration for a time slot is required. Time slots begin at 7:30am. To register or learn more about the *Safe Medication Disposal Day* event, call the DCRAA at (845) 463-6020 or visit www.dutchessny.gov.