

Research Technical Assistance Publications Events About

Custom Search

Medicine Collection Boxes

In spring 2013, [ISTC \(Illinois Sustainable Technology Center\)](#) became involved as a partner with a new program in Champaign County which collects old and unwanted drugs to keep them out of landfills, or to keep them from being flushed down the toilet. The project is being led by [Illinois-Indiana Sea Grant \(IISG\)](#).

[ISTC \(Illinois Sustainable Technology Center\)](#)'s role was to help advocate proper disposal of unwanted medication and also conduct a pilot study of wastewater treatment plants in Champaign-Urbana to establish baseline data on occurrence of pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) in wastewater.

The goals of the program are to reduce accidental poisonings of children and pets, prevent drug diversion and abuse, and limit environmental impacts from storage or improper disposal of unwanted or expired medicines. This program is the first pharmaceutical take-back program in Champaign County to be able to collect controlled substances. Prescription and over-the-counter medicines, as well as veterinary pharmaceuticals, are accepted.

Locked collection boxes are located in police department lobbies of Champaign County, City of Champaign, City of Urbana, and the University of Illinois. The drop-boxes are accessible 24 hours, 7 days a week. The drugs remain in police custody until they are incinerated.

The program is a partnership between the IISG, [ISTC \(Illinois Sustainable Technology Center\)](#), 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, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, Champaign-Urbana Public Health Department, [WCIA \(W.C.I.A.\)](#), and the Prairie Rivers Network.

Additional funding received in July 2014 by [ISTC \(Illinois Sustainable Technology Center\)](#) and IISG from a grant from University of Illinois Extension program, titled "**PPCPs: Extending Knowledge and Mitigation Strategies**," is helping to establish up to 50 additional drop-off points in other Illinois counties as well as fund numerous outreach and educational activities related to the hazards of improper storage and disposal of [PPCPs \(Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products\)](#). Through this grant, [ISTC \(Illinois Sustainable Technology Center\)](#) is also continuing its research into the fate and transport of [PPCPs \(Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products\)](#) in the environment.



One of the PPCP collection boxes located just inside the main entrance of the Champaign Police Department.

Energy

Pollutants

Aquatic Plastic Debris

Metals

Metalworking Fluids

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFASs)

Agricultural Chemicals

PPCPs in the Environment

Pilot Study on PPCPs at Champaign and Urbana Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTPs)

PPCPs: Extending Knowledge and Mitigation Strategies

Fate and Transport of Steroid Hormones and Veterinary Antibiotics Derived from Cattle Farms

Uptake, Translocation, and Accumulation of Pharmaceutical and Hormone Contaminants in Vegetables

Fate of Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products in Irrigated Wastewater Effluent

Karst Groundwater Contaminants in Western Illinois

PPCPs in Karst Groundwater in Southwestern Illinois

Triclosan in Illinois Rivers and Streams

Tunable Luminescent Carbon Nanospheres with Well-Defined Nanoscale Chemistry for Synchronized Imaging and Therapy

Occurrence and Removal of Pharmaceutical and Hormone Contaminants in Rural Wastewater Treatment Lagoons

Degradation Kinetics and Mechanism of Antibiotic Cefitofur in Recycled Water Derived from a Beef Farm

Anaerobic Transformation Kinetics and Mechanism of Steroid Estrogenic Hormones in Dairy Lagoon Water

Nano-CarboScavengers

Medicine Collection Boxes

2008 PPCPs Symposium

2016 PPCPs in the Environment Conference

2017 Emerging Contaminants in the Aquatic Environment Conference

2018 Emerging Contaminants in the Aquatic Environment Conference

2019 Emerging Contaminants in the Environment Conference

2016 Teacher Workshop on Pharmaceutical and Personal Care Products in the Environment

PPCPs Videos

Emerging Contaminants Consortium

PCBs & PBDEs

Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)

Waste Utilization

Water

Instruments & Equipment

Hazardous Waste Research Fund

Meet the Scientists

- Wei Zheng
- Nancy Holm
- Elizabeth Meschewski



One Hazelwood Drive, MC-676
Champaign, IL 61820
p: 217-333-8940
[Email us](#)

Home of Illinois' State Scientific Surveys
Illinois Natural History Survey
Illinois State Archaeological Survey
Illinois State Geological Survey
Illinois State Water Survey
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center