

## **Procedures for conducting a municipal run one day pharmaceutical collection in PA**

1. All municipal run, one day pharmaceutical collections offered to residents must be registered and approved with DEP's Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Program. Please call 717-787-7382 or your DEP regional office to obtain registration package. DEP's HHW web page may be found at <http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/household/14079>
2. Following are guidelines to conducting a residential pharmaceutical collection in PA:
  - Obtain the services of a PA licensed hazardous waste hauler
  - Obtain the services of at least one PA licensed pharmacist
  - Involve law enforcement to take possession of and properly destroy controlled substances
  - Register the collection with DEP's household hazardous waste program, including submission of a letter with the HHW package requesting the Department of Health to issue a letter of exemption for the HHW hauler to possess non-controlled pharmaceuticals
  - Provide a safe and secure site that permits privacy for participants
  - At the collection site, the pharmacist should determine if the pharmaceuticals brought to the collection are controlled or noncontrolled. Controlled pharmaceuticals are given directly to law enforcement. Non-controlled are given to the licensed hazardous waste hauler.
  - Law enforcement takes possession of the controlled pharmaceuticals and has them properly destroyed.
  - The hazardous waste hauler separates the waste into the proper waste categories and manages them according to the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of PA
  - All collected pharmaceuticals must be properly destroyed. Indicate how they will be destroyed, where, and by whom.
  - Controlled pharmaceuticals are regulated under the 'Controlled Substances Act'.
  - A controlled substance under the Controlled Substances Act (<http://www.fda.gov/RegulatoryInformation/Legislation/ucm148726.htm>):
    - (6) The term "controlled substance" means a drug or other substance, or immediate precursor, included in schedule I, II, III, IV, or V of part B of this subchapter. The term does not include distilled spirits, wine, malt beverages, or tobacco, as those terms are defined or used in subtitle E of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

For more information on a pharmaceutical collection, go to the Northeast Recycling Council guidelines for holding a pharmaceutical collection at

[http://www.nerc.org/documents/unwanted\\_medication\\_collection\\_quick\\_guide\\_11\\_08.pdf](http://www.nerc.org/documents/unwanted_medication_collection_quick_guide_11_08.pdf)