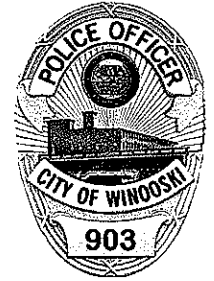




## **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**CITY OF WINOOSKI**

27 West Allen Street  
Winooski, VT 05404



[www.winooskipolice.com](http://www.winooskipolice.com)

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March 25, 2009

**Steve McQueen**

Chief of Police

**Richard Benoit**

Deputy Chief of Police

**For Immediate Release**  
**Contact Chief Steve McQueen**  
**or Deputy Chief Richard Benoit**  
**802-655-0221**

The Winooski Police Department will be offering a service to Winooski and Chittenden County residents by providing a safe and environmentally sound location for the disposal of unwanted, unneeded, and/or expired prescription medications.

Within the lobby of the Winooski Police Department, at 27 West Allen Street, Winooski Vermont a drop box has been placed allowing citizens to anonymously drop of their unwanted medications. The Winooski Police will then properly dispose of these medications.

There are many benefits to this type of program. The main benefit of the program is that the pills - some of which could be abused - are taken out of circulation. Without such programs people will either keep their pills forever, flush them down the toilet which can contaminate the environment and water supply, or dispose of them in other unsafe manners. Our motivation with this program is to remove these medications that are kept after the medical need has passed.

Due to the nature of society and the abuse of narcotic prescription drugs we are attempting to prevent various crimes that we are experiencing as a community. It is our hope that removal of these unneeded medications will decrease the opportunities and the availability of items that the criminal element desire.

The pill box will be available to the public twenty four (24) hours a day in the Police Department lobby beginning today. An individual wishing to dispose of drugs or medication will not need to have any interaction with members of the Police Department unless they wish. The box will be secured and made tamper proof.

Individual anonymity will be respected. This "drop box" may also be used for the anonymous disposal of illegal street drugs and paraphernalia.

We encourage everyone to utilize this program in an attempt to make our communities a safer place.