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**DQA Memo 08-003**

**To:** Adult Family Homes  
Community Based Residential Facilities  
Hospices  
Nursing Homes  
Residential Care Apartment Complexes

AFH 02  
CBRF 02  
HSPCE 02  
NH 03  
RCAC 02

**From:** Otis Woods, Administrator  
Division of Quality Assurance

**Medication Waste and Collection Programs**

The Division of Quality Assurance previously distributed two memos (06-022 and 07-008) providing information about options for removing unwanted medications from facilities. Household waste collection events, such as those held by county Clean Sweep programs, have generated questions from facilities about participating in these programs.

Clean Sweep programs are generally intended for household hazardous waste, though certain businesses may also take hazardous waste to these collection sites. Some facilities are considered to be households and may, therefore, participate. Other facilities are classified as businesses, and their medication waste is not considered household waste. Facilities classified as businesses may still be able to participate in some household medication waste collection programs if they pay a specified fee and show that they generate low volumes of hazardous waste. A business should contact the collection program to determine their eligibility.

Attached is a document developed jointly by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services, Division of Quality Assurance. The document is intended to help facilities determine if they are considered a household or business for the purposes of potentially participating in Clean Sweep medication waste collection programs. Facilities wishing to participate in medication collection events are advised to contact the organizers of the event to make arrangements to handle the collection.

If you have any further questions, please contact Doug Englebert at 608 266-5388.

**Attachment:**

[Pharmaceutical Waste at Non-Hospital Healthcare Facilities](#)