

'Medicine chest' isn't best place for pills

On the surface of things, it might appear that the reason a medicine chest is so called is that it's a good place to store medicines.

Not necessarily, according to the Food and Drug Administration. Potential danger lurks when there's medicine in the medicine chest.

One reason is that bathroom medicine chest are usually right over the sink, and accessible enough to tempt the curiosity of children who live in or visit your house.

To help you know not only to to child-proof your medicine chest, but to keep it safe and up-to-date for adults too, the Food and Drug Administration has a free reprint from its magazine, the FDA Consumer.

What else should be kept will depend on the makeup of the family. If there are young children in the family you're likely to need baby aspirin, anti-bacterial topical ointments, and medicine to treat the symptoms of diarrhea.

No matter what the age of your fam-

ily, avoid overstocking drugs. Some drug products lose potency on the shelf over time, especially after they are opened. Other drugs change in consistency. Ideally, supplies in the medicine chest should be bought to last over a period of no more than six to 12 months.

BE SURE TO review the contents of your medicine chest every six months and discard old supplies. Also be sure that any new prescriptions you get are clearly dated.

Tablets that have become crumbly, medicines that have changed color, odor, or consistency, or are outdated should be destroyed. Empty the bottle of medicine into the toilet, flush it down and rinse out the bottle.

Don't put leftover drugs in the trash basket where they can be dug out by inquisitive youngsters.

Newly purchased drugs that don't look right should be returned to the pharmacy. Drug products that have lost their labels also should be destroyed.

AS A FINAL safety precaution, always keep the telephone number of local poison control center, doctor, hospital, rescue squad, fire and police departments near every phone in the house.

And tape the emergency phone list wherever you keep medicines and emergency supplies, as well as inside the bathroom medicine chest door.

When you order "What's In Your Medicine Chest" (free), you'll also receive a free copy of the Consumer Information Catalog.

No county funds

Subdivisions to pay for own paving

By Susie Rollins Singer staff writer

Homeowners will have to foot the bills for subdivision paving projects during 1983 because the Oakland County Road Commission is bowing out.

The road commission just doesn't have enough state-returned gasoline and weight taxes to subsidize special assessment projects any longer, said Dennis Pajot, road commission public information officer.

"Through 1982, the road commission has always contributed 10 percent of the cost, and municipalities may have helped with the rest," Pajot said. "But

we just don't have the money to do what the people want anymore."

THE PROPOSED 1983 budget shows \$7.9 million earmarked for special assessment projects. Last year, only \$3.6 million was used on the same type of projects. About 99 percent of the money goes toward paving gravel streets, Pajot said.

"There just seem to be a lot more paving projects this year because some have been neglected during the past few years," he added.

The three-man Road Commission will hold a public hearing on the budget at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Nov. 15, in the

Oakland County Board of Commissioners auditorium, 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac.

THE ROAD commission estimates that \$17 million worth of construction projects will be done in 1983.

Of that, \$11.8 million will come from sources outside of the road commission's own money, in addition to the \$7.9 million from special assessments. Outside sources include local governments, state and federal aid.

"Local units of government have already said that they'll spend \$3.9 million on projects in their communities. They will actually hire the contrac-

tors," Pajot said. "This is the first time local units will contract for repairs or widenings of county roads, he added, but they have been turned down several times and apparently want the job done."

"They want their roads improved and realize that the only way it's going to get done is if people dig deeper into their pockets locally."

Revenue from gasoline and weight taxes is down substantially, Pajot said, with only \$52,000 expected in 1983.

"In 1979 we had \$6.2 million of gas and weight tax money we could use for our construction program."

County awards new road paving contracts

The Oakland County Road Commission awarded several contracts recently for construction of area surface streets.

Included is a contract combining three projects in Bloomfield and West Bloomfield townships, awarded to Stolaruk Corp. of Southfield for \$180,927.

The largest portion is the resurfacing of Maple Road between Franklin and Inkster in Bloomfield Township, for which the costs were shared equally by the township and the road commission. Also included in Stolaruk's contract

are "tri-party" projects, where costs are shared equally by the communities, the road commission and the Oakland County Board of Commissioners.

These projects include addition of a passing lanes on Maple at Whysall and on Long Lake at Club Gate in Bloomfield Township and paving approaches to Maple on Glenway and Bloomfield Lane in West Bloomfield.

Other tri-party projects include:

• In West Bloomfield, paving of the last remaining gravel portion of Inkster Road between 14 and Maple roads,

which is about 0.2 miles. The contract was awarded to South Hill Construction Co. of Novi for \$107,570.

• In Oakland Township, reconstruction of Lake George Road northerly from its intersection with Stony Creek Road. The project will involve extensive grading to improve sight distance, adding 650 feet of new gravel paving the approach 150 feet. The contract was awarded to Harry Rosen's Bulldozing Services of Oxford for \$20,840.

• Also in Oakland Township, adding gravel to one mile of road and 3.6 miles

of road in Addison Township. The contract was awarded to Tri-City Aggregates Company of Holly for \$22,298.

Other projects in Commerece and West Bloomfield townships funded by special assessments include paving of 1.48 miles of streets in Peninsular Park Subdivision. Detroit Concrete Products, Inc., received the contract for \$145,149.

The road commission will pay 10 percent; Commerece Township will pay 10 percent of the portion within its boundaries; and benefiting property owners will pay the remainder.

Class teaches self-hypnosis

The Center for New Directions at Henry Ford Community College is offering a one-day seminar on self-hypnosis.

Participants will learn how to hypnotize themselves with specially designed mental images that can increase self control over mind and body, improve their concentration, relieve stress, reverse maladaptive behavior and break bad habits.

The class will meet in Room S-20 of the science building from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The fee is \$25. To register call the Center for New Directions at 271-2854.

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