



Red Rock SPF-SIG

January 2014



Canadian County Drop Box Success

The Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics (OBN) is partnering with local law enforcement agencies across the state of Oklahoma to set up permanent locked prescription drop-off boxes.

The purpose of these boxes are for citizens to dispose of their unused or unwanted prescriptions while decreasing the risk of diversion.

The permanent disposal containers allow the public to dispose of old medication year-round rather than waiting for an official drug take-back day. Canadian County received their fourth prescription drug drop box at the Piedmont Police Department. Over the past year, the drop boxes throughout the county have collected over 750 pounds of unused medications.

The disposal containers are vital for preventing the potential disasters caused by keeping unnecessary medication in the home. OBN has a partnership agreement with Covanta Energy in Tulsa to safely destroy the drugs collected from the disposal

containers and turns it into clean, renewable energy at no charge to OBN or the state of Oklahoma. This disposal process prevents prescription medications from infiltrating our water system which happens when they are flushed down the drain, or disposed of in landfills, these drugs cannot be removed from water supplies at typical waste treatment plants and have negative effects on the environment.

If you would like to know more about the prescription drop-off boxes or other locations, please contact OBN at <http://www.ok.gov/obn/dd/> or the SPF office at 405-354-1928 ext. 202.



DROP BOX LOCATIONS

CANADIAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT:

304 N. EVANS
EL RENO, OKLAHOMA

MUSTANG POLICE DEPARTMENT

650 E. STATE HIGHWAY 152
MUSTANG, OKLAHOMA

YUKON POLICE DEPARTMENT

100 S. RANCHWOOD
YUKON, OKLAHOMA

PIEDMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT

400 EDMOND ROAD NW
PIEDMONT, OKLAHOMA

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Top New Year's Resolutions

- Stop Smoking
- Drink Less
- Get More Exercise
- Going on a Diet
- Find a Soul Mate
- Spend more time with Family & Friends
- Be more organized

Source: <http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2010/dec/31/list-top-new-years-resolutions/>

Talking to Your Teen about Prescription Drug Abuse

Helpful hint to keep in mind when talking to youth about this and other drug-related topics: Keep the discussion open and the mood relaxed, so that your child does not feel defensive or afraid to share his/her feelings.

YOUTH: *I have heard so much hype over these pain meds. I just want to try it once. It's not a big deal.*

PARENT: With all the recent attention on pain meds, I can understand your curiosity. But it is important to know that even experimenting with these medications can bring about dangerous consequences. These pain meds (also known as opiates) can cause a number of short-term side effects like nausea, constipation, fatigue and confusion. Long-term use can lead to physical dependence and addiction. Once addicted, both the body and mind crave more of it...leading a person down a dark path. And if opiates are taken with alcohol, antihistamines (found in cold medicines) or other substances that slow the central nervous system, it can be a fatal situation, even with first use. So abusing medication to get high is a dangerous.

YOUTH: *I know it's not "ok" to use drugs, but at least it's a medicine prescribed by a doctor, which is better than an illegal drug off the street.*

PARENT: You're right on your first point, it's absolutely not ok to use drugs (*make clear your stance*). And I understand why you would think a medicine prescribed by doctors is safer than illegal street drugs. But the fact is legal does not equal safe (reference the short and long term side effects of Rx pain meds in the above scenario). Medicines have a system which controls who can get them and when. That system is there for a reason: to protect us.

There are many different scenarios that could be discussed. We encourage you to come up with more. The important thing is that you are talking. Because talking with children about the risks of prescription drug abuse can positively impact their attitudes and empower them to make healthy, substance-free lifestyle choices.

For resources and information on combating prescription drug abuse visit [*The Generation Rx Initiative*](#).

Sources: [DrugFree.org](#), [BusinessDictionary.com](#), [Prevention Research Institute: PRIME for Life for Parents](#)

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Check us out on the web!

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