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For questions or more information please contact:

Lynsi Mayfield
Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator
90 N. 31st
Clinton, OK 73601
580-323-9736
lynsim@red-rock.com

Safe Disposal of Unused or Expired Prescription Medicines

Prescription drug abuse is Oklahoma's fastest growing drug problem and in 2012, Oklahoma had the fifth highest unintentional poisoning death rate in the nation (18.6 deaths per 100,000 population).* The RPC would like you to be aware of the importance of disposing prescription drugs properly.

Many people have prescriptions that are expired or unused and because of the increase in prescription drug abuse it is important to safely dispose of those medicines. Medicine take-back programs are a good way to remove expired, unused or unwanted medicines from the home. The Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs (OBNDD) has many drop off boxes for people to securely and safely dispose of any unused, unwanted, or expired prescription drugs. In Beckham County, there are 2 drop boxes; one located in Sayre at the Sheriff's Department and one located in Elk City at the Police Department. To locate a drop box in or near other towns, please visit the OBNDD website at <https://portal.obn.ok.gov/takeback/default.aspx>.

For more information on the growing prescription drug abuse problem in Oklahoma, please visit www.takeasprescribed.org or contact the RPC at 580-323-9736.

**<http://takeasprescribed.org/the-problem/>*