

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

For questions or more information please contact:

Lauren Greenfield

Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator

90 N. 31st Street

Clinton, OK 73096

(580)323-9736

laureng@red-rock.com

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Safe Disposal of Unused or Expired Prescription Medicines

Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator (RPC) would like you to know the importance of disposing prescription drugs properly. According to the Take as Prescribed website, 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).

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 (OBND) has many drop off boxes for people to securely and safely dispose of any unused, unwanted, or expired prescription drugs. To find a drop off box near you, please visit <http://www.ok.gov/obndd/>.

For more information on the growing prescription drug abuse problem in Oklahoma, please visit www.takeasprescribed.org. The RPC's mission is to encourage individual responsibility, positive behavior, and personal growth; strengthen families and communities; promote a drug-free society through education, training, prevention, research, advocacy, and environmental strategies. Red Rock RPC is funded through the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. For more information on services please contact Red Rock RPC Director, Lauren Greenfield, at (580)323-9736 or visit the RPC website at www.redrockrpc.com.