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April 24, 2013

Prescription Drug Take Back Day on April 27th.

On April 27th, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its sixth opportunity in three years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last September, Americans turned in 244 tons of prescription drugs at over 5,200 sites operated by the DEA and its thousands of state and local law enforcement partners. In its five previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners took in over 2 million pounds—over a thousand tons—of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

Drop boxes are open year round as well, so the public doesn't have to wait for a National Prescription Take-Back Day to dispose of old medication. Red Rock Regional Prevention Coordinator in Clinton serves a nine county region including Beckham, Blaine, Caddo, Custer, Dewey, Greer, Kiowa, Roger Mills, and Washita Counties. Currently Caddo County has two drop boxes which are located at the Caddo County Sheriff's Office in Anadarko and the Carnegie Police Department.

For more information on the prescription drug drop boxes or to find a drop box near you go to www.ok.gov/obnnd or for more information on the appropriate disposal of prescription drugs or other substance abuse prevention strategies please contact Red Rock RPC Director, Lauren Greenfield at (580)323-9736.

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