



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

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NEWS RELEASE

City of Falls Church Joins DEA in Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day April 30

The City of Falls Church Public Safety Department and the Environmental Services Department will join the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and Virginia State Police in the nationwide prescription drug "Take-Back" Day on Saturday, April 30. The purpose of this campaign is to prevent increased drug abuse and theft. City of Falls Church public safety officials will collect potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs for destruction at Fire Station #6, 6950 Little Falls Road (rear parking lot) on Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. All drugs collected will be destroyed.

Last September during the inaugural Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, Americans turned in 242,000 pounds—121 tons—of prescription drugs at nearly 4,100 sites operated by the DEA and more than 3,000 state and local law enforcement partners, including the City of Falls Church.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Many Americans are not aware that medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States are increasing at alarming rates, 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, many Americans do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away – both potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about DEA and the "Take-Back" initiative visit www.dea.gov .

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