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**PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE- BACK DAY**  
*SAFE DISPOSAL SAVES LIVES*

**Eau Claire, WI, April 29, 2016** – The Alliance for Substance Abuse prevention and local law enforcement agencies, in cooperation with the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), will host a Prescription Drug Take-Back event on Saturday, April 30th from 10am-2pm at Marshfield Clinic—Eau Claire Center.

This effort will continue to bring focus to the issue of prescription opiate abuse. The goal of the Take-Back Day is to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposal, while also educating the community about the potential for abuse and consequences of improper storage and disposal of these medications.

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. Proper drug disposal is one way to reduce the abuse of prescription drugs and painkillers.

In Eau Claire County, 1 in 4 high school students tell us that prescription medications are easy or fairly easy to get. Most youth that report misuse tell us the medication was given to them by a friend, or they got it from their own home, a friend's home, or a grandparent's home **without permission**.



“It is our goal to make our homes and communities safer by providing a method to dispose of unused prescription drugs, and make them less available for youth to misuse” said Rachael Manning, Coalition Facilitator for the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention. “Securely storing Rx drugs and properly disposing of them when they are no longer needed will reduce the number of people misusing them.”

This drug take-back initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. When unused prescription medications stay in home cabinets, the potential for misuse and abuse increases. Studies show that the majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

Help make prescription drugs less available by disposing of them properly! For more information about what will be accepted at the Take-Back event visit: [www.getinvolvedasap.org](http://www.getinvolvedasap.org).

