



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Residents encouraged to dispose of unused prescription drugs on Sat. Oct. 26th

Eau Claire, WI - October 25, 2019 – It's time to clean out the medicine cabinet! Saturday, October 26th is National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Eau Claire County is hosting two Take Back Day events on Saturday, October 26th from 10am-2pm.

We encourage residents to visit one of the Take Back Day events in Eau Claire or Altoona to safely dispose of prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, ointments, patches, non-aerosol sprays, inhalers, creams, and pet medications. The disposal event is free and anonymous.

The last event collected **almost 3,400 pounds** of unused prescription drugs. The local events are coordinated by the Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention, Altoona Police Department, Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office, and Marshfield Clinic Health System.



National Take Back Day Events in Eau Claire County

Marshfield Clinic - Eau Claire Center
2116 Craig Road - Entrance B

Altoona Police Department
1904 Spooner Avenue - Altoona, WI

October 26
10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high and continue to rise. Unused medications left in your cabinet have the potential to fall into the hands of those who shouldn't be using them. This could lead to drug misuse or accidental poisoning. "This event helps raise awareness about prescription drug misuse. It's also a good reminder to keep prescription drugs locked and out of sight," says Sarah Dillivan-Pospisil, Community Health Educator.

70% of people abusing prescription painkillers get them through friends or relatives. Safely disposing medications is the best way to keep others safe. *(Never flush or drain your medications!)* "We make our homes and communities safer when we take the time to properly dispose of the medications no longer needed," says Dillivan-Pospisil.

For more information about safe prescription drug disposal, visit: www.getinvolvedasap.org or www.doseofrealitywi.gov

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