

For Immediate Release

DEA Plans 8th National Prescription Drug Drop-Off Community Comes Together to Support Campaign to Keep Kids and Water Supply Safe

Three dozen sites throughout Western New York will host a medication drop-off day on Saturday, April 26, 2014 from 10am to 2pm. It's the largest single day drop-off in Western New York. The Drug Enforcement Administration is leading the effort as part of a national campaign with the support of local police agencies, Kids Escaping Drugs, Erie County Department of Health, Erie County Department of Environment and Planning, University at Buffalo School of Pharmacy, D'Youville School of Pharmacy, Independent Health Association, Catholic Health System, Kaleida Health System, Erie County Water Authority, West Herr Automotive Group, and Covanta Energy.

A similar event held in October collected over 4 tons of unwanted and unneeded medications from residential homes. Western New York leads the state in collections.

The purpose behind this event is to keep medications out of the hands of teens looking to experiment and to keep our water safe. Flushing old medications contaminate the water table and eventually our drinking water. Numerous state and national surveys show time and again that prescription pain medications are fast becoming the drug of choice among our teens with most teens reporting taking the medications from someone's home. Death by overdose is the number one cause of accidental death today, surpassing car accidents for the first time since 1979 when drug overdose stats started being tallied. Taken as prescribed, these medications can control severe pain. When abused, addiction can come quickly, too often ending in death.

ALL MEDICATIONS, PRESCRIPTION AND OVER-THE-COUNTER, WILL BE ACCEPTED AT ALL SITES.

NEEDLES WILL ALSO BE ACCEPTED. FOR A COMPLETE LIST OF LOCATIONS VISIT:

WWW.DEA.GOV WWW.MAKEACHANGEWNY.ORG

4/26/14 DRIVE-IN; DROP-OFF; NO QUESTIONS ASKED

For more information: Michelle Spahn DEA 846-6060

Christina Kruzer KED 827-9462