



MEDIA ADVISORY

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Prescription Medication Take Back Day

Leaving unneeded medications around the home poses risks!
SAFE DISPOSAL EVENT – October 28th, 10am – 2pm

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including the family medicine cabinet. **Monitoring, securing and safely disposing** of medications can help prevent misuse and abuse. Young adults (18-25) are the biggest abusers of prescription (Rx) opioid pain relievers, stimulants, and anti-anxiety drugs. In 2014 more than 1,700 young adults died from prescription drug (mainly opioid) overdoses and many more needed emergency treatment according to reports from the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Locally: Nevada County 2016/2017 California Healthy Kids Survey results show that **overall student use of prescription medications without a doctor's order remains very low. However, we still see that 6% of 11th graders report they had used a prescription drug not prescribed to them in the past 30 days.** Recreational use or using prescription drugs as a study aid are common reasons students use them and youth often view prescription medications as safe to use because they are prescribed by a doctor.

On Saturday, October 28th communities across the nation are holding Take Back Days to collect expired and unwanted prescription medications. **In Nevada County we are fortunate to have year round safe disposal options thanks to the Grass Valley Police Department.** The following four locations provide safe disposal options year round:

Grass Valley Police Department
129 South Auburn Street, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Kmart Pharmacy
111 W. McKnight Way, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Save Mart Pharmacy
12054 Nevada City Hwy, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Nevada County Behavioral Health
500 Crown Point Circle, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Don't flush medications, recent studies showed traces of pharmaceuticals in tap water across the U.S.

CALL TO ACTION: To reduce harm from prescription drug misuse and abuse, and save lives, please **MONITOR** prescription drugs in your home to reduce the risk that they fall into the wrong hands, keep Rx medications in a **SECURE** location whenever possible, and **SAFELY DISPOSE** of expired or unneeded medications at the locations above or on **Saturday, October 28th** at the **Corner of Neal & South Auburn Street, Grass Valley from 10am until 2pm.**

More information: www.drugfreenevadacounty.org