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WAUKESHA COUNTY DRUG COLLECTION RECEIVES NEARLY 3,000 POUNDS OF MEDICATION

WAUKESHA, Wis. – More than 1,400 vehicles dropped off 2,974 pounds of medication, collectively, at the 5 location sites during the Waukesha County Drug Collection held on Saturday, October 3rd. At the collection, with drop-off sites in Elm Grove, Menomonee Falls, Pewaukee, Waukesha and Oconomowoc, 2,707 pounds of non-controlled and 192 pounds of controlled substances, as well as 75 pounds of inhalants, were disposed of.

The goal of the program is to dispose of unused medications in an effort to reduce prescription drug abuse and accidental poisonings in Waukesha County, help protect local waterways and create awareness of the dangers of prescription drug abuse. The pounds collected Saturday exceeded the expectations of the Task Force organizing the event.

“I am very pleased with the great success of this program,” said Irene Secora, Program Coordinator for Waukesha County Drug Free Communities. “Clearly there is a need out there for this type of service. Residents need a way to safely dispose of their drugs and this program addresses that need.”

The drugs were collected under the supervision of local police and the Waukesha County Metro Drug Enforcement Unit. The drugs will be escorted by law enforcement to an incinerator where they will be destroyed.

Tomorrow, Wednesday, October 7th, from 7-9 p.m., Elmbrook Parent Network will host a follow-up awareness program for parents titled “Drugs, Alcohol & Today’s Teens,” at Pilgrim Park Middle School in Elm Grove. The speakers at the event include Captain Chuck Wood from the Waukesha County Metro Drug Enforcement Unit, Addiction Councilor from the Hurias Center, David Poehlmann and James Pearson from the Addiction Resource Council.

“Waukesha County Prescription Drug Collection,” continued ...

“Tomorrow’s event will provide parents with information on prescription drug abuse and the tools they need to identify the signs of drug abuse in their child, preventative advice and strategies, and treatment options,” said Sandra Schultz, events coordinator for Parent Network.

The program is open to all Waukesha County residents, not just parents of Elmbrook students, Schultz added.

The group plans to have another drug collection in the spring of 2010. The collection website www.waukeshacounty.gov/drugcollection will provide information on the spring collection as the date approaches.

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