

## NORTHWEST REGIONAL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Prescription and over-the-counter drug abuse is one of the fastest growing public health threats facing the nation today, with most of those controlled substances found in home medicine cabinets. Unused medicines can lead to drugs being inappropriately and unlawfully used by others. Keeping medications out of the wrong hands is a critical step in solving the growing problem of pharmaceutical drug abuse.

Additionally, prescription and over-the-counter drugs need to be disposed of properly. Flushing unused medications or throwing them into the trash can have adverse effects on the environment. Aside from possibly damaging the treatment facilities; sewage treatment plants are not able to remove all of the chemicals and therefore drugs may make it into our waterways which enter streams, rivers, wildlife and plant life.

Each year, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) holds one or more National Drug Take Back Events. While these programs are important, they offer the public a limited opportunity to return unused and unneeded medications. It is the goal of the Northwest Regional Police Drug Take Back Program to make disposal of these pharmaceuticals convenient and more readily accessible to the public.

The Northwest Regional Police Department will accept unneeded, unwanted or leftover drugs from all members of the public throughout the calendar year, at the police station, during regular business hours. Individuals should be directed to enter the building through the main lobby entrance.

The Northwest Regional Police Department will accept medications, during normal business hours; Monday – Friday, 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, holidays excluded. The individual dropping off the medication will not be required to show identification or proof of residency.

The department will accept liquids, inhalers, creams, liquid filled capsules or other “non-pill” form types of medications.

Pills or capsules that are wet or moist will not be accepted by police personnel.