

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Nancy Leddy 203-239-5321 ext. 505

NORTH HAVEN SUBSTANCE ABUSE ACTION COUNCIL TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

October 27, 2018 AT FIRE HEADQUARTERS

NORTH HAVEN, CT- On **October 27, 2018** from 10 am to 2 pm the North Haven Substance Abuse Action Council and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public another opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your medications for disposal to Fire Headquarters at 11 Broadway, North Haven, CT. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

The **North Haven Substance Abuse Action Council** (SAAC) hosted their first Take Back in April, 2010, and now proudly works in tandem with the DEA National events. After previous Take Back Days spread over almost 6 and one half years, **8,103,363** pounds (**4,052** tons) of pills were brought to the **5,500** collection sites that offered across the nation.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse on the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines-flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash-both potential safety and health hazards. Turning in your unused prescription drugs keeps our water clean. Reports of trace amounts of prescription medicines being found in drinking water supplies across the country have prompted public interest in how medications are disposed of. Proper disposal of medication is a significant way to lower the risk of ground/water contamination. For questions, please contact Nancy Leddy, Youth Services Administrator, 203-239-5321 ext. 505.