

CHATHAM COUNTY GOVERNMENT



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Chatham County to Participate in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Chatham County, Chatham County Police Department, and the Chatham-Savannah Counter Narcotics Team will be joining forces to participate in the upcoming National Prescription Drug Take Back.

What: National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

When: Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.:

Where: In an effort to help make drop-off locations accessible for Chatham County residents, three locations are being provided throughout the county.

Sam's Club
1975 East Montgomery Crossroads
Savannah, Georgia 31406

Walmart
6000 Ogeechee Road
Savannah, Georgia 31419

Sam's Club
15 Mill Creek Circle
Pooler, Georgia 31322

Only prescription pills and patches can be turned in at this time. No liquids or sharps.

Background:

According to a 2017 national survey, **6 million Americans misused controlled prescription drugs**. The study shows that a majority of abused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet. The national take-back day is a safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs and provides an opportunity for Americans to help prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths.

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) hosts no-questions asked National Prescription Drug Take-Back events twice per year where temporary collection sites are set up in cities throughout the nation for safe disposal of prescription drugs, including opioids. The DEA's "Take-Back" initiative is one of several strategies to reduce prescription drug abuse and diversion in the nation. Opioid abuse is at epidemic levels in the U.S., and remains a top public health concern.

For more information please visit the following sites:

www.deatakeback.com

<https://www.dea.gov/>

<https://takebackday.dea.gov/content/partnership-toolbox>

###

For more Information Please Contact:

Gene Harley
Assistant Deputy Director
Public Information Officer
Chatham~Savannah
Counter Narcotics Team (CNT)
912.652.3900 Office
912.547.1131 Cell