

Barrington Times

Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Drug take-back event is Saturday

There's a proper way to get rid of old meds

In collaboration with the US Drug Enforcement Agency, Barrington Police and the BAY Team's Policy and Prescription Drug Committee will again collect unwanted medications on Saturday, April 30 outside CVS Pharmacy on County Road.

This year attendees can enter a drawing to win a \$50 local gift certificate. It is part of a nationwide effort to rid communities of excess prescription medications.

Commonly abused medications are often found in home medicine cabinets. For instance, opioids with trade names such as Vicodin, Dilaudid, and Lomotil, central nervous system depressants such as Xanax and Valium, and stimulants such as Dexedrine, Ritalin, and Adderall should be disposed of if not being used as

treatment for a current condition.

Barrington's last take back event disposed of 185 pounds of unwanted medications.

According to the Governor's Overdose Prevention and Intervention Task Force, drug poisoning deaths now exceed the number of deaths from motor vehicle crashes, falls, firearms, and fire combined.

In addition, according to the RI Kids Count 2016 Factbook, infants born with negative effects due to mothers who used opioids during pregnancy are also on the rise in Rhode Island.

Eliminating access to excess medications is just one prevention strategy employed in Barrington, where there is a permanent drug disposal box located at the Public Safety Complex on Federal Road. In 2015, approximately 325 pounds of medications were disposed of at this site.

In addition, The BAY Team is collaborating with Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America to pilot the new Generation Rx program. Visit www.generationrx.org to view resources on prescription drug abuse.