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MEDIA RELEASE

National "Take Back" Initiative for Prescription Drugs Henry County Sheriff's Office Lobby September 25, 2010 10:00am to 2:00pm

The Henry County Sheriff's Office takes great pleasure in announcing our participation in the nationwide prescription drug "Take-Back" initiative that seeks to prevent increased pill abuse and theft. Often young people only have to go as far as the medicine cabinet at home to find drugs. To combat this growing problem, both locally and nationally, the Henry County Sheriff's Office, along with the Martinsville Police Department, is partnering with the DEA and other agencies to offer the citizens of the county and city a place to come and drop off any unused, unwanted or outdated prescriptions with no questions asked. Sheriff Perry would like to take this opportunity to assure the community that the HCSO is doing everything within our power to combat the abuse of drugs – both illicit and illegal prescription drugs. Please use this opportunity to open discussion with the young people in your household about the dangers of prescription drug abuse.

Turn in your **unneeded
Rx medications
September 25th
Visit dea.gov
for location
information**



According to the DEA press release, "The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and law enforcement partners will be collecting potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs for destruction at sites nationwide on Saturday, Sept. 25, 2010, from 10 A.M.-2 P.M. local time. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Many Americans are not aware that medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States are increasing at alarming rates, 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, many Americans

do not know how to properly dispose of their unused medicine, often flushing them down the toilet or throwing them away – potential safety and health hazards.”

“With this National Prescription Drug Take-Back campaign, we are aggressively reaching out to individuals to encourage them to rid their households of unused prescription drugs that pose a safety hazard and can contribute to prescription drug abuse,” said Acting Deputy Attorney General Gary G. Grindler. “The Department of Justice is committed to doing everything we can to make our communities safer, and this initiative represents a new front in our efforts.”

There are Public Service Announcements and video for radio and television media on the DEA website www.dea.gov and <http://www.nationaltakebackday.com/>