



NEWS RELEASE

Date: September 10, 2010

Contact: Captain Michael J. Trice

(804) 365-6292 (w)

(804) 389-4501 (c)

HANOVER SHERIFF'S OFFICE PARTICIPATES IN NATIONWIDE PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK INITIATIVE

Where: Mechanicsville Transfer Station
7427 Verdi Lane in Mechanicsville
When: Saturday, September 25
10:00am to 2:00pm

On Saturday, September 25th, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office along with other Richmond localities will be assisting the Richmond District Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration with the first ever **Nationwide Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative**. The purpose of this initiative is to provide an opportunity for citizens to surrender their expired, unwanted and/or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances.

Unused prescription drugs can pose a significant threat to the safety and welfare of our citizens as well as to the environment if they are not disposed of properly. Today, the Nation's fastest growing drug problem is the abuse of prescription drugs. This has led to substantial increases in the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses in our communities. Studies show that the ease of obtaining these drugs from family and friends as well as from the medicine cabinet at home, has led to these alarming increases. In addition, many citizens do not properly dispose of these medications and often flush them down the toilet or simply throw them away in the trash.

The Hanover County Sheriff's Office encourages all citizens of Hanover County to take advantage of this opportunity to help make our homes, communities and environment safe from abused and improperly disposed of prescription drugs. Citizen identities will be kept anonymous. Please keep in mind that:

- Prescription and over the counter solid dosage medications, i.e. tablets and capsules will be accepted.
- Intra-venous solutions, injectables, and needles will not be accepted.
- Illicit substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine are not a part of this initiative.

To learn more about the dangers of prescription drugs please visit the following websites:

- <http://www.justice.gov/dea/index.htm>
- <http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/>
- http://www.dare.com/kids/index_3.htm

###