

**GARDEN SPOT VILLAGE AND NEW HOLLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
BRING NATIONAL TAKE-BACK INITIATIVE TO NEW HOLLAND**

Public is invited to clean out their medicine cabinets for April 30 collection

NEW HOLLAND, Pa. — Apr. 4, 2011 — Garden Spot Village and the New Holland Police Department are partnering to provide a collection site in New Holland for the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Sat., Apr. 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Garden Spot Village residents and the public are encouraged to bring expired, unwanted or unused prescription and over-the-counter medications for disposal at the collection site on the campus of the retirement community at 433 S. Kinzer Ave.

“We are excited to provide the convenience of this first-time collection in the New Holland area, and we are proud to work with the New Holland Police Department on this program, which is designed to remove potentially dangerous drugs from our homes,” said Colleen Musselman, director of life enrichment at Garden Spot Village.

Statistics from a 2009 survey on drug use indicate that 7 million Americans abuse prescription drugs. According to the Partnership for a Drug Free America, some 2,500 teens each day use prescription drugs to get high for the first time. Most of these abused drugs come from a friend’s or family member’s medicine cabinet.

“This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue,” said Chief Donald Bowers of the New Holland Police Department. “Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse.”

Last September, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) worked with state and local law enforcement agencies to conduct the first National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day at sites across the country. The effort provided safe, no-cost and confidential disposal for prescription drugs, including controlled and non-controlled substances, and over-the-counter medications. Last year, approximately 3,000 law enforcement agencies took part and turned in more than 121 tons of pills.

The April event is also free and completely anonymous. Participants should remove any personal information from drug bottles or packages.

“We will accept pills, capsules, creams and liquids, but we cannot accept syringes or ‘sharps’,” Musselman said.

A law enforcement officer will be present during the collection. Signs will be posted on campus to direct the public to the collection site.

For more information, call Colleen Musselman at 717-355-6007 or Chief Donald Bowers at 717-354-4647.

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