



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Communications Office

[Elizabeth Brandt](#), Communications Specialist, 919-623-4763

[Communications Office](#) After Hours, 919-857-WAKE

wakegov.com/news

Date: Nov. 7, 2016

Dispose of Expired and Unused Medications during Operation Medicine Drop

[Data shows](#) that unintentional poisoning is one of the top three causes of death by injury in Wake County. The average North Carolinian [fills 14 prescriptions annually](#), and studies show that as much as 40 percent of the drugs dispensed are never used for their intended purpose, contributing to accidental poisoning, overdose and abuse.

Wake County residents can help protect themselves and their families by participating in Operation Medicine Drop on Nov. 9 at the Public Health Center located at 10 Sunnybrook Road in Raleigh. Wake County Human Services staff and members of the Wake County Sheriff's Office will be on site from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. to accept expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs, over-the-counter medicines and controlled substances, with no questions asked. Please note, needles will not be accepted.

By providing safe and secure ways for people to get rid of unwanted medications, Operation Medicine Drop helps prevent accidental poisonings and drug abuse.

Additionally, residents can visit any of the 11 permanent prescription drug take-back boxes in Wake County to drop off medications throughout the year. They are located at:

- Apex Police Department, 205 Saunders St., Apex
- Cary Police Department, 120 Wilkinson Ave., Cary
- Fuquay-Varina Police Department, 114 N. Main St., Fuquay-Varina
- Garner Police Department, 912 7th Ave., Garner
- Holly Park Pharmacy, 3058 Wake Forest Road, Raleigh
- Holly Springs Police Department, 110 West Balentine St., Holly Springs
- Morrisville Police Department, 260 C Town Hall Drive, Morrisville
- Wake County Law Enforcement Training Center, 2300 Law Enforcement Drive, Raleigh
- Wake County Sheriff's Office, 330 Salisbury St., Raleigh
- Wake County Human Services Public Health Center, 10 Sunnybrook Road Raleigh
- Wake Forest Police Substation, 221 S. Brooks St., Wake Forest

If residents cannot access these options to dispose of old medications, they should remove the medication from its original container; mix it with coffee grounds, cat litter or some other undesirable substance; and place in sealed plastic containers or bags. These can then be placed in the trash for pick up. Please remove any personal identifying information from prescription medicine bottles before throwing them away.

For more information, visit [our website](#).

###

www.wakegov.com | FOLLOW US @wakegov     