

Project Rx to collect old medications

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Looking for a way to get rid of your old medications but don't want to pour them down the drain?

Take them to the next Project Rx: A River Remedy event on Oct. 26.

Project Rx events are designed to keep medications out of the region's waterways, where they can potentially affect wildlife and the people who drink the water downstream. Residents simply drive through and drop off their unused drugs.

And since their debut three years ago, they have collected 7,534 pounds of unwanted medicines — or about the weight of a killer whale, organizers say.

“Project Rx protects our residents and local waterways,” said Stacey Flax, customer service and contract manager for Renewable Water Resources. “By offering this event to the public twice a year, we ensure that a proper disposal method is always available to the community.”

At these collections, which are held twice a year, residents can drop off old and unused prescription medicines, over-the-counter drugs, vitamins and supplements, and veterinary medications. Sharps and syringes are not collected.

Residents should block out any identifying information on prescription vials, but leave the name of the drug visible.

This time, collections will be held at three locations — McAlister Square at 225 South Pleasantburg Dr., St. Francis Millennium campus at 2 Innovation Dr., and the Greenville County Medical Society at 1395 South Church St.

Project Rx is a partnership with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

The community taskforce is a collaboration between Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, Carolinas Institute for Community Policing, Greenville County Medical Society, Greenville County Sheriff's Office, Greenville Family Partnership, and Renewable Water Resources.

Supporting organizations include *The Greenville News*, Greenville Journal, Greenville Technical College, Greenville Water, Martin Printing, Presbyterian College, Upstate Forever, Keep Greenville County Beautiful, Greenville Water, Powdersville Water and Whole Foods Market.

The next event will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 26.

For more information, go to www.aRiverRemedy.org or call 864-467-4099.