

Prescription drug drop box promotes year round disposal



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In Greenville County alone, people bring home roughly five million prescriptions per year.

Unfortunately, some of those unused medications end up in the trash, toilet, or wrong hands.

On Friday, April 29th, Project Rx: A River Remedy will unveil a drop-box at Greenville Memorial Hospital.

The box will be available year-round for people to safely dispose pills — no questions asked.

The drop box is free, secure, and anonymous. Organizers encourage everyone to clean out their

The drop-box is free, secure, and anonymous. Organizers encourage everyone to clean out their drawers or cabinets and bring in anything that is unwanted or expired.

"Many people aren't aware of the dangers of flushing your old medication, but it has a significant impact on our water quality," said ReWa Public Relations Coordinator, Ashley Rinehart.

Officials hope the year-round service will also keep surrounding communities safer.

Sometimes pills are mistaken for candy by kids. Certain medications could also be tempting for loved ones struggling with opiate or other addictions.

Before this, many had to hang on to pills for months, waiting on a statewide, biannual drug take-back event. This allows you to dispose of anything you don't need right way.

Greenville Health System Officer, Devin Dixon, showed 7News bags of pills that have already been collected.

"Cost alone on what you just saw was probably quarter of a million dollars worth. On the streets, you could probably triple or quadruple the price of that," said Dixon.

Dixon says the drop-off is under strict security and consistently emptied. Officers are constantly watching surveillance.

In addition, it's anchored to the floor and wall.

GHS will work take the medication to Columbia and incinerate the pills with the cooperation of SLED.

The drop-box is located inside Greenville Memorial Hospital near Upstate Medical Pharmacy. The lobby is open 24/7.

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