



For Community Calendar

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Alabama Extension & Partners Participate in National Drug Take Back Program

Normal, AL, April 2018---The Alabama Cooperative Extension System's Urban Affairs and New Nontraditional Programs unit, the Partnership for a Drug-Free Community, Wellstone Behavioral Health, and local law enforcement and community agencies will participate in the DEA National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 28 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For the first time the Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University's Student Health and Wellness Counseling Center will serve as a drop-off site for local residents to bring unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medication.

One often-overlooked prevention area deals with the improper disposal of prescription opioids that are often prescribed for pain relief in hospitals, long-term care facilities, and home care settings. When unused or expired drugs are thrown away incorrectly, medications can end up in the water supply, as part of local landfills, or even in nearby garbage cans where people are more likely to find them.

With opioid drug use on the rise across the nation, the adverse impact of environmental pollution, and the possibility of drugs ending up in the hands of children and teens, drug take back drives that occur in April and in October each year, give consumers a chance to properly dispose of unused medication. This year Madison County area residents and organizations have five drop-off sites to choose from as follows:

Huntsville Police Department
(Parking lot on north side of Wheeler Avenue)
815 Wheeler Avenue NW
Huntsville, AL

Alabama Agricultural and Mechanical University
Student Health and Counseling Center
(Parking lot on the south side of the building)
4011 Meridian Street
Huntsville, AL

CVS Pharmacy
2210 Winchester Road
Huntsville, AL

Madison Police Department
100 Hughes Road
Madison, AL

CVS Pharmacy
12275 Highway 231-431 North
Meridianville, AL

For general information about this event or Extension environmental programs, please contact Dr. Karnita Garner at (256) 372-8331 or kfg0003@aces.edu or visit www.aces.edu/urban.

For more information on the proper disposal of drugs, please visit [www.https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/index.html).

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