

The Greenville News

greenvilleonline.com

Thursday

NOVEMBER 3, 2011

Project Rx brings in hundreds of pounds of meds

Event helps keep waterways clean

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More than 1,500 pounds of drugs were collected at the latest event to help Upstate residents safely dispose of their expired and unused medications.

And 595 pounds of that were collected in Green-

ville County during the third Project Rx: A River Remedy event, according to organizers.

The drive-through collection is designed to keep pharmaceuticals out of the region's waterways. Dumping medicines down the drain or flushing them contaminates the water supply and potentially impacts wildlife as well.

Held Saturday at 25 locations across the Upstate — three in Greenville Coun-

ty — the event collected old prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, vitamins, supplements and veterinary medicine.

Most of the drugs were pills, but there also was some liquid, powder and ointment medications, organizers said.

The first two collections amassed more than 1,175 pounds of medications, according to organizers, who plan to continue the event twice a year.

The Project Rx task-force is led by Renewable Water Resources and has several partners, including Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, the Greenville County Sheriff's Office, Greenville Family Partnership, Greenville Technical College and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, which disposes of the drugs.

For more information, go to www.aRiverRemedy.org.