

News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**Contact:**

Emily Kosa  
864-235-0959 x 3

**Project Rx: A River Remedy Announces Date & New Partnership**  
*Community taskforce provides proper disposal of unused medicine*

Greenville, S.C. (September 15, 2010) – Project Rx: A River Remedy will hold its third drug take-back event on October 29, 2011, encouraging community members to properly dispose of unused medications.

The Project Rx event was originally launched in November 2010, and held a second take-back event this past June. The two events resulted in a combined collection of more than 1,175lbs of unwanted medication that was properly disposed of by the Greenville County Sherriff's Office.

Improperly disposing of medicines by flushing or pouring them down the drain contaminates our community's water sources. However, not disposing of the medication leaves them accessible, feeding the growing problem of prescription drug abuse. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, each person in the United States filled an average of 12 prescriptions in 2009. With Greenville County's population of approximately 450,000 people that means more than 5 million prescriptions are brought home each year, plus millions more bottles of over-the-counter drugs.

In order to expand both its footprint and capacity, Project Rx welcomes a new partner for its third event—the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). The DEA regularly holds a national drug take-back day as well, and the two organizations will collaborate for the first time in October, with the DEA providing safe disposal services for all locations.

The Project Rx community taskforce is led by Renewable Water Resources, and includes partners Bon Secours St. Francis Health System, Greenville County Sheriff's Office, Greenville Family Partnership and Greenville Technical College. Supporting organizations include Greenville County Medical Society, Greenville Water System, Senior Action, Upstate Forever and Whole Foods Market.

Interested participants can visit the drive-thru locations of McAlister Square (225. S Pleasantburg Drive), St. Francis' Millenium Campus near CU-ICAR (2 Innovation Drive) and the Greenville County Medical Society (1395 South Church Street), as well as numerous drop-off locations (*to be announced*) throughout the Upstate thanks to the partnership with the DEA. Upstate residents can drop off unwanted or expired prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, vitamins & supplements, and veterinary medicine—no questions asked.

Event managers ask that participants use a black sharpie marker to eliminate any personal information on prescription medication labels, but to **leave the name of the drug visible** to ensure proper disposal procedures. Sharps, needles, etc. will NOT be collected at the event.

For more information, visit the Project Rx website, <http://www.aRiverRemedy.org> or call 864-467-4099.

**Project Rx: A River Remedy**

Project Rx: A River Remedy is a local collaboration of community organizations united to help keep our rivers and residents safe from unused medications. Founded in 2010 by Renewable Water Resources, Project Rx pulls together multiple community resources to hold take-back events semi-annually. As a safe alternative to flushing unwanted medications down the drain, or leaving them at home within the reach of the wrong hands, this program allows Upstate residents to bring prescriptions, over-the-counter medications, vitamins and supplements for a FREE and SAFE disposal... the perfect remedy for our community.

**Renewable Water Resources (ReWa)**

ReWa's goal is to promote a cleaner environment, and to protect the public health and water quality of the Upstate waterways, while providing and developing the necessary sewer infrastructure for the growing economy. ReWa serves more than 400,000 industrial, commercial and residential customers in Greenville County and parts of Anderson, Spartanburg, Pickens and Laurens Counties.

###