

# Bonneville County Sheriff's Office

News Release

September 22, 2010

In coordination with the Federal Drug Administration Saturday September 25<sup>th</sup> is National Prescription Take Back Day.

The Bonneville County Sheriff's Office and the Idaho Falls Police Department have placed a Prescription Drop Box in the lobby of the Law Enforcement Building. The drop box will provide a safe outlet to properly dispose of expired or unused prescription medication. The drop box is available to the public Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Saturday September 25<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. 2 p.m., the Bonneville County Sheriff's Office will have a deputy on location to help properly dispose of prescriptions that are no longer needed.

Tightly closed prescription medications can be dropped. Liquid containers must be sealed in a plastic bag to prevent spills and no needles.

Medicines are generally safe and effective when used as prescribed, but they could be especially harmful to a child, pet or anyone else if taken accidentally. The drop box will help ensure that the medications do not accidentally fall in the hands of a child. It will also help protect our environment from being contaminated by medication that is thrown into our landfills or waste water systems.

The Federal Drug Administration states that teen are misusing prescription drugs with increasing prevalence. A study done by the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention states that 15% of 9<sup>th</sup> grade students and 26 % of 12<sup>th</sup> grade students have used medications to get high. Teens, who can often readily access the medicine cabinets of unsuspecting parents, can abuse prescription medication.

As a parent or grandparent please dispose of any unused medications promptly and be aware of the contents of your own medicine cabinet. That way you will know when there is a change in quantity of a particular medicine.