MDEQ PROMOTES DRUG TAKE BACK EVENTS

(JACKSON, Miss.) -- The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) is encouraging Mississippians to participate in the upcoming drug take back events sponsored by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) this Saturday, September 25 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. People may bring unwanted solid prescription and over-the-counter medicines so they may be disposed of safely. Liquid medications, such as cough syrup will not be accepted.

Law enforcement agencies in Mississippi that are participating in the event and the addresses of the drop-off locations are as follows:

**Sponsor Drop Off Location Address City**

Brandon Police Department
Brandon Police Department
1455 West Government Street
Brandon, Ms 39042
Gulfport Police Department
Gulfport Police Dept Operations Bldg.
2810 34th Avenue Gulfport, Ms 39501
12th Circuit Court Narcotics Enforcement Team
Forrest County Multi-purpose Bldg.
962 Sullivan Drive Hattiesburg, Ms 39401
Olive Branch Police Department
First Baptist Church 9235 Pigeon Roost Road
Olive Branch, Ms 38654
Pascagoula Police Department
Jackson County Civic Center
2902 Shortcut Road Pascagoula, Ms 39567
Pass Christian Police Department
Pass Christian Public Library
111 Hiern Avenue Pass Christian, Ms 39571
Pearl Police Department
Pearl Police Department Lobby
2422 Old Brandon
The event does not restrict drop off to only residents of the sponsoring community; therefore, residents may drop off unused medications at any nearby event site. Unused drugs that are stored around the home may present a danger to people as well as to the environment when disposed of. Removing unused medications from the home can help prevent intentional misuse and unintentional poisonings of children and pets. However, dumping the medication down the drain or flushing it down the toilet can become a source of water contamination. Research is continuing into whether such water contamination adversely impacts human health or aquatic life. Additional information on the take back events nationwide is available on the DEA’s website: http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/takeback, and information on pharmaceuticals as pollutants can be found at: http://www.epa.gov/ppcp/

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