



The Delaware River and Bay Authority

NEWS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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DRBA Police Joins with Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to Participate in 13th National Take-Back Initiative (NTBI)

(New Castle, DE) On Saturday, April 29, 2017, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), working with Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) Police Department as well as state and local law enforcement agencies throughout the United States, will be conducting its thirteenth National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The National Take Back Day, which focuses on removing potentially dangerous drugs from our nation's homes, provides an opportunity for the public to surrender **expired, unwanted, or unused** pharmaceuticals and other medications to law enforcement officers for proper disposal.

According to Colonel Richard Arroyo, Police Administrator for the Authority, the DEA initiative addresses a vital public safety and health issue. "Prescription medicines abandoned inside home medicine cabinets are vulnerable to misuse or abuse," Arroyo said. "Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are disturbingly high. Working with the DEA, we're focused on the proper, safe disposal of all types of controlled, non-controlled, and over the counter medications."

Arroyo added that the program is confidential. "No questions or requests for identification will be made by law enforcement personnel present," he said. "In fact, participants will be asked to remove any personal information from bottles or packages."

The DEA's National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day provides for numerous collection sites throughout the area. – including pills, liquids and creams. No syringes please. More than 500 pounds of medication have been collected at DRBA sites since the bi-state agency began participation in the NTBI in September 2010.

When: April 29, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Where: The DRBA Police Department has established three collection sites:

- New Castle Airport Terminal Building, 151 N. DuPont Highway, New Castle, DE
- Lewes Ferry Terminal, 43 Cape Henlopen Drive, Lewes, DE
- Cape May Ferry Terminal, 1200 Lincoln Blvd., N. Cape May, NJ

Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are also advised that the typical methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

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According to the 2013 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health, an estimated 6.5 million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs. According to the Partnership for a Drug Free America, approximately 2,500 teens use prescription drugs daily to get high for the first time.

The public can find the nearest collection sites in their community by logging on to the internet and going to the www.dea.gov website and clicking on the drug disposal icon. After clicking on the icon, you must enter your zip code and the database will query the collection sites that have been registered and provide you with the nearest collection site near that zip code.

About the Delaware River and Bay Authority

The DRBA, a bi-state governmental agency created by Compact in 1962, owns and operates the Delaware Memorial Bridge, the Cape May- Lewes Ferry, and the Forts Ferry Crossing. The DRBA also manages corporate and aviation properties through its economic development powers - two airports in New Jersey (Millville Airport and Cape May Airport) and three in Delaware (New Castle Airport, Civil Air Terminal and Delaware Airpark). All DRBA operating revenues are generated through the bridge, ferry and airport facilities. For more information, visit www.drba.net.

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