

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Contact: Rachel Ross

(530) 528-1103

Free Prescription Drug Collection Event

A free Prescription Drug Take Back Day will be held on Saturday, July 19, 2014 from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the following locations:

- Ampla Health (parking lot) 7981 Hwy 99E, Los Molinos

This is a great opportunity for Tehama County residents to safely dispose of accumulated unwanted and/or unused prescription drugs anonymously. Only prescription drugs in solid pill or liquid form will be accepted during this event. Intra-venous solutions, sharps (injectables, needles, lancets, etc) and illicit substances *will not* be accepted during the event. Please contact the Tehama County Sanitary Landfill Agency for more information regarding the proper disposal of sharps at (530) 528-1103 or visit www.tehamacountylandfill.com.

Improper disposal of prescription drugs threatens public health and safety. Removing potentially dangerous prescription drugs, particularly controlled substances, from our nation's medicine cabinets is vital to ensure the drugs aren't within reach of abusers. Approximately 2,500 teens use prescription drugs each day to get high for the first time, according to the Partnership for a Drug Free America. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including the home medicine cabinet.

In addition, pharmaceuticals, antibiotics, steroids and similar substances have been detected in the nation's drinking water due to leaching and improper prescription drug disposal. Waste water treatment systems are not designed to remove such substances; therefore, prescription drugs flushed directly into the sewer system potentially impact human health through exposure in drinking water and soil contamination.

Dispose of prescription drugs responsibly! Participate in the free collection event to ensure pharmaceuticals are not polluting the water supply and to reduce substance availability to unintended citizens. St. Elizabeth Community Hospital, the Tehama County Sheriff's Department, Tehama County Health Services Agency, Tehama County Sanitary Landfill Agency and Ampla Health are partnering in this effort. For further event information, please contact the Tehama County Sanitary Landfill Agency at (530) 528-1103.