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SUN CITY WEST FIRE DISTRICT

18818 N. Spanish Garden Drive, Sun City West, Arizona 85375

Business: (623) 584-3500 – Fax: (623) 546-8613 – www.scwfire.org

NEWSRELEASE

Contact: Holli Sandeen
Community Outreach Specialist
Phone: (623) 215-1058
Fax: (623) 584-8613

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Sun City West to Participate in Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative

(SUN CITY WEST, AZ), (APRIL 19), 2012 - The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), will sponsor a national prescription drug take back initiative on April 28. Sun City West community members wishing to participate in this program may drop-off their unused or expired prescription drugs for disposal between 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the drive-thru location in the parking lot of the Sun City West Fire District fire station 103, 13431 W Deer Valley Dr or Sun City West Posse, 20450 Stardust Blvd.

The initiative was created to prevent increased pill abuse and theft by ridding homes of potentially dangerous, expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

All solid dosage and liquids in consumer containers may be accepted, excluding glass containers. Liquid products such as cough syrups, should remain sealed in their original containers. Items such as intravenous solutions, injectables, and syringes will **not** be accepted due to potential health hazards.

Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. 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 now advised that their usual 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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