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NEWS RELEASE

OPERATION MEDICINE DROP COMING TO THE CITY OF CREEDMOOR

Local event collecting medications for safe, secure disposal.

On Saturday, October 28, 2017, from 10:00am to 2:00pm, Creedmoor Police Department will partner with Walgreens to host its' annual *Operation Medicine Drop* event. This event provides the public with an opportunity to prevent accidental poisonings, abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. The police department urges its' citizens to bring their unneeded and expired medications to Walgreens (703 North Main Street, Creedmoor, NC) for safe disposal. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. Since 2010, over 1000 sites have collected over 30 million dosage units of medication during take back events statewide.

Operation Medicine Drop is an effort coordinated by North Carolina Department of Insurance, Safe Kids North Carolina, NC State Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Riverkeepers of NC and local groups to prevent accidental poisonings, substance abuse and protect our waters.

With unintentional poisoning deaths on the rise in the state, *Operation Medicine Drop* reminds parents and caregivers to:

- Keep medicines locked up and out of reach of children.
- Always read labels, follow directions and give medicines to children based on their weights and ages. Only use the dispensers packaged with children's medications.
- Avoid taking medicine or vitamins in front of kids, and don't call them candy.
- If you suspect poisoning and a child is choking, collapses, can't breathe, or is having a seizure, call 911. Otherwise, take the product to the phone and call the national Poison Help hotline at 1-800-222-1222.

The police department also offers safe and secure disposal throughout the year with a drug drop box at City Hall. This process is also anonymous; simply walk in, drop your unneeded or expired medications in the drop box and walk out.

For more information about *Operation Medicine Drop*, go to www.ncsafekids.org or contact Officer David Gallemore at the police department.