

# PROJECT MEDICINE DROP

The Fair Haven Police Department is proud to announce a partnership with the Office of the Attorney General, Division of Consumer Affairs. Through this partnership, we were able to successfully be accepted into a program called "Project Medicine Drop". You will find located within the lobby of the Fair Haven Police Department, a Mailbox style drop box which is for the public to deposit their unwanted or unneeded medicines. There are limitations, so please read below before bringing your medicines to the Police Department.

## Materials Accepted Into the Drop Box:

The Drop Box is clearly labeled to identify the materials that may be deposited, and materials that may not be deposited. Please take note of the following:

The Drop Box accepts household medications only.

The Drop Box accepts pills, capsules, patches, and pet medications.

The Drop Box does not accept mail, trash, syringes, or liquids\*.

\*If you have medicine that is liquid, such as cough syrup, and the container and cap are tightly sealed, it can be deposited.

When depositing accepted items, the process remains completely anonymous. An Officer will not ask for identification. We must stress the importance of only depositing the accepted items. Accepted items may be deposited Monday through Friday from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm. If those times are not convenient, you can contact the Police Department by dialing 732-747-0991. An Officer will set up a time for you to access the drop box.

The abuse of prescription painkillers is every bit as dangerous and deadly as the abuse of illicit drugs such as heroin – and it is growing at epidemic rates. For those who abuse and/or sell these drugs, the easiest way to obtain them is to raid the medicine cabinets of relatives and acquaintances. Project Medicine Drop is an important part of New Jersey's solution to this problem. The number of admissions to N.J. addiction treatment programs due to prescription drug abuse, rose by 200 percent over the past five years, and 700 percent over the past decade. Prescription painkiller overdoses now kill more people in the U.S. than heroin and cocaine combined.

Two in five teenagers mistakenly believe prescription drugs are "much safer" than illegal drugs. In a growing trend, New Jersey teens who abused prescription drugs went on to become addicted, and turned to heroin use.

SOURCES: Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA); U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration; New Jersey State Commission of Investigation.