



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jeff La Rue, chief communications officer

jeff.larue@bjwsa.org

BJWSA urges residents to properly dispose of medication on Take Back Day

Okatie, S.C. (April 25, 2024) – Beaufort-Jasper Water & Sewer Authority (BJWSA) is encouraging its customers to participate in National Prescription Take Back Day on Saturday, April 27 by properly disposing of unwanted and expired medication instead of flushing it down the toilet.

On Take Back Day, two collection sites in Beaufort County will be available for the public to anonymously drop off old and unneeded medication from 10 a.m. to Noon. The event is free to all.

The drop-off locations are:

- 2001 Duke Street, Beaufort
- 4819 Bluffton Parkway, Bluffton

Disposing of medication in this way, rather than improperly flushing it down the toilet, keeps it from entering streams and rivers once it has passed through BJWSA wastewater treatment plants. Though BJWSA treats wastewater to near drinking water standards prior to discharge, treatment plants are generally not equipped to routinely remove medication.

“We need customers to stop thinking of toilets as trashcans,” said Brian Chemsak BJWSA’s Chief of Wastewater Plant Operations. “The prescription takeback program is an opportunity to safely, securely and anonymously dispose of medicine without it ending up in our wetlands and waterways.”

The U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency initiated National Prescription Take Back Day to encourage the public to remove unneeded medications from their homes as a measure of preventing medication misuse and opioid addiction from ever starting.

Beaufort County also has multiple medication drop-off sites open year-round. For more information on this, visit <https://justplainkillers.com/drug-safety/>.