7522 County Complex Road, Hanover, VA 23069 - (804) 365-6110 - www.hanoversheriff.com

Contact:
Major Mike Trice
804-365-6292 (office)
804-389-4501 (cell)
mjtrice@hanovercounty.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 2, 2015

Drug Take-Back to Be Held September 26, 2015

HANOVER, Va. – On Saturday, September 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Sheriff's Office and the Ashland Police Department will be participating with the Richmond District Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration in the *National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day*. The Mechanicsville Solid Waste Center, 7427 Verdi Ln, Mechanicsville, VA 23116, and the Ashland Police Department, 601 England St, Ashland, VA 23005, have been established as collection sites. This is a <u>free</u> service to Hanover County and Town of Ashland citizens.

Here, citizens can safely surrender their expired, unwanted, or unused pharmaceuticals and medications- *no questions asked, no identification required.* These items include:

- Prescription medications and over-the-counter solid dosage medications (e.g., tablets, capsules, pills, etc.)
- Liquid products, such as prescription cough syrup (please keep sealed in original container)

The following are examples of items that will not be accepted:

- Intra-venous solutions, injectables, and needles
- Illicit substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. 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—pose potential safety and health hazards.

To learn more about the dangers of prescription drugs, please visit the following websites:

- http://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.com/
- http://www.dare.org/drug-abuse-trends-change-dare-america-responds/



###