



**WWW.WOOD.ARMY.MIL / MSCoE**

U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



## Media Release

---

---

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

FORT LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI 65473

VOICE: 573-563-4145

FAX: 573-563-4012

BY: Jeff Maddy

EMAIL: [jeff.maddy@us.army.mil](mailto:jeff.maddy@us.army.mil)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Release No. 12-045

March 30, 2012

## Post schedules 'take back' program

*Program provides safe, environmentally sound ways to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs*

**FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.** – General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital assisted by local law enforcement agencies and the Pulaski County Health Department will participate in a legal collection of unused prescription drugs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., on April 28.

This safe drug take back program will be held at the Fort Leonard Wood Commissary and Post Exchange. People may drop off unused or unwanted medication at any of the collection sites, with no questions asked.

Safe Take Back programs, now in their third year, serve two purposes. First is to reduce the risk of prescription drugs entering the water, potentially harming aquatic life or getting into the human water supply. People are not advised to get rid of unwanted or unused drugs by flushing them down the toilet, or mixing excess drugs in with kitty litter, coffee grounds and other household waste that goes to a landfill.

Second, the programs also reduce the risk of prescription drugs being consumed inappropriately either by accident or through illegal sale. The event is a first step in stopping what a DEA official referred to as a "worrisome trend in teen drug use," where illegal drug use occurs when teens raid friends' and relatives' medicine cabinets.

The first DEA Take Back program was held in September of 2010, and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration announced the overwhelmingly successful results of the first-ever national prescription drug Take Back campaign. The American public turned in more than 242,000 lbs. of prescription drugs for safe and proper disposal. More than 4,000 take back sites were available in all 50 states, and Americans responded in huge numbers. Approximately 300 lbs. of medications were collected in the Pulaski County area last year.

For more information contact the General Leonard Wood Army Community Hospital, Preventive Medicine Division at 573-596-1491 or the Pulaski County Health Department at 573-736-2217.

-30-

#### *About Fort Leonard Wood*

*Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains 80-90,000 military and civilians each year.*

*Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army's largest Non Commissioned Officers Academy.*

*Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.*