FEDERAL WAY POLICE DEPARTMENT
33325 8th Avenue South
Federal Way, WA 98063
253-835-6701
www.cityoffederalway.com
Jim Ferrell, Mayor
Andy J. Hwang, Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **April 27, 2016**
MEDIA CONTACT

Cathy M. Schrock, Public Information Officer
Federal Way Police Department
253-835-6850 or piorequest@cityoffederalway.com

Federal Way, WA – On April 30th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Federal Way Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public the bi-annual opportunity in to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to **Federal Way City Hall at 33328 8 Avenue S, Federal Way, WA 98003**. Weather permitting, the drop off site will be located outside for easy drive up access, or it will be conveniently located in the Police Department Lobby. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches.)

Last September, Americans turned in 350 tons (over 702,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at more than 5,000 sites operated by the DEA and more than 3,800 of its state and local law enforcement partners. Overall, in its 10 previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 5.5 million pounds—more than 2,750 tons—of pills. .

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—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the April 30 Take Back Day event, go to the DEA Diversion website