

Norfolk Insider

City of Norfolk, NE

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April 24, 2013

“Unwanted Prescription Drugs Pick Up on Saturday”

An “unused prescription pick up” will be held this coming Saturday, April 27, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Walgreens Pharmacy parking lot at the intersection of 13th and Norfolk Avenue in Norfolk. Prescriptions and over-



the-counter medications will be accepted. There is no fee for dropping off these items.

According to Larry Bockelman, Health Educator with the Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department, there are many reasons why a person should go through their cabinets and get rid of their expired and unused drugs.

“Medicines that sit in a bathroom or kitchen cabinet absorb humidity and can quickly lose their effectiveness or become toxic. Drugs that sit unused are also dangerous in that kids or others can accidentally or intentionally ingest them,” Bockelman said.

Although it may seem easier to throw those prescriptions in the trash or flush them down the toilet, the drugs should be taken to health officials who can properly dispose of them.

“Prescription drugs in the waste stream will pollute the lakes, streams and water supplies. Even a small amount is dangerous in a landfill or river,” Bockelman said.

Items that should not be taken to this Saturday’s event include intravenous solutions, injectables, syringes, mercury thermometers, oxygen containers, chemotherapy/radioactive substances, pressurized canisters and illicit drugs. Bockelman recommended that people discuss with their health care providers how to properly dispose of those items.

Saturday’s event is sponsored by the Elkhorn Logan Valley Public Health Department and the Norfolk Police Department and is

funded by the Nebraska Environmental Trust and Drug Free Communities. For more information call 402-529-2233.