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NEWS RELEASE

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Prosper Fire Station site of April 30 Drug Take Back Day

PROSPER (April 18, 2016) Residents looking for a way to safely and securely dispose of medications, drugs or other prescriptions that have become outdated or are no longer wanted should make plans to visit the Prosper Fire Station on April 30, says Fire Chief Ronnie Tucker.

“This service has become a popular one,” he said. “I know sometimes people will save a medication thinking that they might need it later, only to find out that it has expired or is no longer effective. Then, they just leave it where it is because they may not know what to do with it.”

The answer, of course, is participating in Drug Take Back Day, set for Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The free drop-off service is designed to provide a place where unwanted or expired drugs can be safely taken and disposed. Collection boxes will be set up at the entry lobby of the fire station, 1500 East First St. No drugs will be accepted either before or after the hours of the event.

“A secondary, but important, purpose is to keep prescription drugs from being illegally distributed,” he said. “Also, the service can prevent these potentially harmful drugs from being poured into the water supply.”

Drug Take Back Day is a free, cooperative effort between the Prosper Police and Fire Departments and is sponsored nationally by the federal Drug Enforcement Agency.

“As we have done previously, there will be several fully-attended collection boxes available to accept the drugs,” he said. “And, like before, neither police nor fire officials will ask questions about the drugs.”

New or used needles, new or used syringes and full or empty pressurized inhalers will not be accepted.

During previous Drug Take Back Day events, residents have turned in enough old and expired drugs to fill up to six large containers. Some residents have reported that drugs have been in their medicine cabinets for almost 20 years.

“Unfortunately, people who flush prescription drugs down their toilets or pour them into sinks may place the community at risk,” said the Chief. “Drugs contaminate the wastewater which may eventually find its way back into the water supply.”

For more information on the program, residents may contact Firefighter Marty Nevil at (972) 347-2424 or send an e-mail to Nevil at marty.nevil@prosperfire.com.

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ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 17,800 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 70,000 residents, Prosper’s vision is to remain a “Place Where Everyone Matters.”