

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Terry Maenza
T: 610-670-7789 ext. 1009
M: 610-849-6484
terry.maenza@amwater.com

CUMBERLAND COUNTY PHARMACEUTICAL COLLECTION SETS RECORD

HERSHEY, Pa. (September 21, 2011) – Pennsylvania American Water and the Cumberland County Recycling & Waste Authority reported today that a record-setting amount of medications and pharmaceutical products were collected for disposal last Saturday, September 17, ensuring that they will never end up in drinking water sources. The event at the Hampden Township Rec Facility offered free disposal of unwanted and expired prescription and over-the-counter medicines.

Nearly 270 Cumberland County residents participated by dropping off 673 pounds of pharmaceutical products, including controlled and non-controlled substances, which will be incinerated.


“This was the largest turnout we’ve ever experienced for a pharmaceutical collection event in Cumberland County since we started the program in 2008, plus we set a local record for the volume of drugs and medical products collected,” said Recycling & Waste Authority Executive Director Tom Imphong.

Pennsylvania American Water co-sponsored the event to prevent the contaminants from entering local waterways and landfills, plus disposing of unused medications in an environmentally safe manner keeps them from falling into the wrong hands.

“To everyone who participated, thanks for helping to protect our water resources and enhance drinking water quality,” said Terry Maenza, director of communications and external affairs for Pennsylvania American Water. “The event helped reinforce the importance of not flushing unused or expired drugs down the toilet where they can eventually enter our water sources.”

Representatives from Pennsylvania American Water, Cumberland County Recycling & Waste Authority, Cumberland County Sheriff’s Department, Hampden Township Police and the Cumberland-Perry Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition, as well as a local pharmacist and licensed hazardous waste contractor, took part in the event.

Pennsylvania American Water, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Water, is the largest water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to approximately 2.2 million people. Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest investor-owned U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to approximately 15 million people in more than 30 states, as well as parts of Canada. More information can be found by visiting www.amwater.com.



In 2011, American Water is celebrating its 125th anniversary with a yearlong campaign to promote water efficiency and the importance of protecting water from source to tap. To learn more, visit www.amwater125.com.

###