



## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **The Essex Fells Police Department Launches Safe Medication Disposal Program to Reduce Drug Accessibility, Misuse and Accidental Poisonings**

Essex Fells, NJ – The Essex Fells Police Department announced today a partnership with The Rite Aid Foundation’s Safe Medication Disposal Program, a public safety initiative focused on reducing drug accessibility, medication misuse and accidental poisoning among children and adolescents. Funded by The Rite Aid Foundation’s KidCents program, the Safe Medication Disposal Program provides law enforcement agencies in communities served by Rite Aid with free medication disposal units for citizens to safely dispose of expired or unwanted prescription and over-the-counter medications.

“The Rite Aid Foundation and KidCents is proud to partner with local law enforcement agencies to help address drug abuse and accidental poisonings, both of which pose a serious threat to the health and safety of our nation’s young people,” said Rite Aid Executive Vice President of Pharmacy Jocelyn Konrad. “We look forward to working with the Essex Fells Police Department and law enforcement agencies across the country to bring disposal units to the communities we serve and to deliver on The Rite Aid Foundation’s mission of improving the health and well-being of kids.”

As part of the KidCents Safe Medication Disposal Program, the Essex Fells Police Department received one medication disposal unit which is located inside the main entrance to Borough Hall. The unit is available during business hours for people to safely dispose of prescription and over-the-counter medications that are no longer needed or have expired.

“We were looking to provide our residents with a place to easily and safely dispose of unused medication and to expand upon our biannual participation in the DEA’s prescription drug take back program. This was a simple, no cost way to achieve that goal,” said Chief of Police William Theilacker. “This collection point is one more way we can remove potentially dangerous substances homes within our borough and ensure their proper disposal.”

Other law enforcement agencies located in a community served by Rite Aid can now apply to participate in the KidCents Safe Medication Disposal Program. Selected law enforcement agencies will receive high-quality, stainless steel medication disposal units to keep in their locations, as well as initial start-up supplies. In addition, shipping, delivery, and installation is free. To apply, visit [www.riteaid.com/meddisposal](http://www.riteaid.com/meddisposal).

By: 

Chief of Police