

APRIL 2024

# VERNON ROCKS COALITION

Make sure to mark your calendars for the upcoming coalition events, read about our new projects and learn about Alcohol Awareness Month!

Visit our Website



"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world"

-- Anne Frank

## Community Events

**DEA TAKE BACK DAY**  
DEA NATIONAL TAKEBACK  
 April 27, 2024 | 10am-2pm  
 Walgreens | 188 Union St., Vernon

**Safely Dispose of unused or unwanted medications**

<b>Accepted</b>	<b>Not Accepted</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prescription medication</li> <li>• Over the counter medication</li> <li>• Pet medication</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sharps</li> <li>• Hazardous waste</li> <li>• Personal care products</li> <li>• Thermometers</li> </ul>

Join us for our semi-annual DEA Take Back Day! Save the date for April 27, 2024, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Walgreens in Vernon. This event offers a secure method to dispose of any unused or unwanted medications, helping to reduce the risk of misuse.

Before bringing in your items for disposal, remember to blur out any personal details on the bottles. If you intend to drop off vapes or E-cigarettes, be sure to remove the batteries in advance.

### Earth Day!

Earth Day is an important reminder for us to reflect on our impact on the environment. One significant issue we face is the waste generated from substance use from not disposing of containers correctly. These single-use items contribute to pollution and harm our planet's ecosystems. By being mindful of our consumption habits we can take small but meaningful steps towards a cleaner and more sustainable Earth.





## Rockville Rocks Block Party!

Get ready the Rockville Rocks Block Party is back! Join us on May 18th from 1-4 p.m. for this free community event to celebrate National Prevention Week! The Block Party will feature Resources, a DJ, Games, Hidden in Plain Sight Training, Ice Cream, a K9 Demonstration, and many more exciting activities!

## Alcohol Awareness Month

April is Alcohol Awareness Month, with the goal of increasing public awareness and understanding of the causes and treatment of alcohol use disorders. Alcohol Use Disorder also known as AUD is a medical condition that is characterized by an inability to stop or control alcohol use despite adverse consequences. There are also factors that increase the risk of AUD such as genetics, family history of alcohol use, a history of trauma, and many more.

Despite alcohol being the third leading cause of preventable death in the United States, with approximately 95,000 Americans dying from alcohol-related causes each year, alcohol remains the most commonly consumed substance among both youth and adults. Remember Alcohol Use Disorder can affect anybody, regardless of demographics.

Individuals who consume significant amounts of alcohol increase their risk of injury, violence, liver disease, and some forms of cancer, as well as having major consequences in their relationships and social life.

### AUD STATISTIC

In 2022, 753,000 youth aged 12 to 17 experienced AUD in the previous year.

In 2022, 28.8 million adults ages 18 and older had experienced AUD in the past year.

### WHAT INCREASES RISK OF AUD

- Drinking at an early age.
- Genetics.
- Family history of alcohol problems.
- Mental health conditions.
- A history of trauma.

### ALCOHOL USE DISORDER (AUD)

A medical condition characterized by an inability to stop or control alcohol use despite adverse consequences.

If you or a loved one is having trouble with substance abuse check out the available resources in the area.

If you are aware of an underage party or illegal activity follow the link and submit the anonymous form below, and the Vernon ROCKS Coalition will work

Are you interested in becoming more involved with the Vernon ROCKS Coalition? We are always looking for more members. You can join by visiting our

with the Vernon Police  
Department to prevent or  
stop the activity.

website

[Get Help](#)

[Report it Here](#)

[Get Involved](#)

## [The Vernon ROCKS Coalition](#)

The Village for Families & Children | 19 Elm Street, Vernon, CT 06066

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