

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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County Police Again Participating in Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative
April 30 Event Provides Safe Disposal of Unwanted, Unused, Expired Prescription Drugs

PITTSBURGH – The Allegheny County Police Department will once again participate in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day initiative sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) on Saturday, April 30, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The department will collect unwanted, unused and expired prescription drugs and other medications at two locations: at the [North Park County Police Station](#) located at 700 West Ridge Drive in McCandless Township, as well as the [South Park County Police Station](#) located on Buffalo Drive between Corrigan Drive and Farmshow Drive in South Park Township.

This is the 6th year that the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day has been scheduled, with two events typically held each year. The event provides a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposal, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of these medications. The one-day event will provide residents with no-cost, anonymous collection. No liquid medications or needles will be accepted. All collected medications will be disposed of safely and properly.

For the first year, Allegheny County Police will partner with the Pittsburgh Poison Center to distribute information regarding its services to residents who participate in the Take Back Initiative. The Center, staffed 24 hours a day, responds to more than 150,000 requests for poison information from the general public and medical professionals who reside in 44 Pennsylvania counties. There is no fee for the service. The Center can be reached at 1-800-222-1222.

Medicines in the home are a leading cause of accidental poisoning and flushed or trashed medicines can end up polluting our waters. Rates of prescription drug abuse are alarmingly high – over half of teens abusing medicines get them from a family member or friend, including the home medicine cabinet, and often without their knowledge. Take-back events, such as the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative, is the safest and most responsible way to dispose of unwanted and expired medicines to protect your family and to protect our waters.

Since its inception in 2010, the effort has safely and properly disposed of 5.5 million pounds, or 2,750 tons, of prescription drugs. Last September, Americans turned in 350 tons of prescription drugs at more than 5,000 sites operated by the DEA and more than 3,800 of its state and local law enforcement partners.

The Allegheny County Police have participated in each National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. For additional information, call the North Park County Police Station at 724-935-1901 or South Park County Police Station at 412-835-5650.

The public may locate additional collection sites by visiting www.dea.gov, clicking on the "Got Drugs?" graphic, and entering their zip code or county, city and state. Collection sites can also be identified by calling 1-800-882-9539.

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