



PRESS RELEASE

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PRESRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK OCTOBER 28TH

Jackson, Michigan – On Saturday October 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, Jackson City Police Department, Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Jackson County Substance Abuse Prevention and Coalition, and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pill for disposal to the Center for Family Health at 505 N. Jackson Street, Jackson, MI. (We cannot accept liquids, needles, or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last October, Americans turned in 366 tons (over 730,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at almost 5,200 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,000 of its state and local law enforcement partners. Overall, in its 12 previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 7.1 million pounds- more than 3,500 tons – of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisoning and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines – flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash – both pose potential safety and health hazards.

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