

COUNTY OF



ALLEGHENY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 12, 2016

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County Police Again Participating in Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative
October 22 Event Provides Safe Disposal of 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, October 22, 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, and the 12th time, 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. The Allegheny County Police have participated in each National Prescription Drug Take Back Day.

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 6.4 million pounds, or 3,200 tons, of prescription drugs. Last April, Americans turned in 447 tons of prescription drugs at more than 5,400 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,200 of its state and local law enforcement partners.

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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