

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Department: Police Department

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## The Lake in the Hills Police Department is participating in the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Event on Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Lake in the Hills, IL - On Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m., the Lake in the Hills Police Department and the United States Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will provide an opportunity for the community to safely rid their homes of potentially dangerous, expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. The collection location will be in the lower lobby of the Lake in the Hills Police Department, located at 1115 Crystal Lake Road. Prior to drop off, the police department requests the removal of all prescription labels or to black out labels with a marker. The service is free and anonymous; no questions will be asked of the individuals dropping off the prescription medication.

Tablets, capsules, patches and other solid forms of prescription drugs can be collected the day of the event. Liquids (including intravenous solutions), syringes/other sharps and illegal drugs will not be accepted. Vaping devices and cartridges will be accepted, provided lithium batteries are removed prior to drop off.

Unneeded prescription medication, those that are old, unwanted, or no longer needed, are a public safety issue as explained by the DEA and too often unneeded prescription medication becomes a gateway to addiction. The DEA states the majority of opioid addictions start with prescription pills found in medicine cabinets at home. Pharmaceutical drugs can be just as dangerous as street drugs when taken without a prescription or a doctor's supervision, the DEA advises.

"The DEA explains studies indicate a majority of abused prescription drugs come from family and friends, including from home medicine cabinets, so clearing out unused medicine is essential for the safety of our community members," said Officer Amanda Schmitt, the Public Information Officer for the Lake in the Hills Police Department. "The DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day events are one way to safety dispose of unneeded medications."

For more information about the DEA's National Prescription Take Back Day event on October 28<sup>th</sup> or to locate drop off locations in Illinois, visit <a href="www.DEATakeBack.com">www.DEATakeBack.com</a>. For further information or questions, please contact Officer Amanda Schmitt, the Lake in the Hills Police Department's Public Information Officer at communityrelations@lith.org.

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Any criminal or traffic complaint(s) that have been filed against any individual(s) named herein are only an accusation. All defendant(s) are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. All inquiries regarding this press release are to be directed to the Public Information Officer at 847-658-5676 unless otherwise noted.