

## PRESS RELEASE

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Department: Police Department

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## Lake in the Hills Police Department Participating in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Event on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>

**Lake in the Hills, IL** - On Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>, from 10am until 2pm the Lake in the Hills Police Department and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will provide an opportunity for the public to rid their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring pills for disposal to the lower lobby of the Lake in the Hills Police Station (1115 Crystal Lake Rd). The DEA cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps. Only pills or patches will be accepted. Prior to drop off, be sure to remove all labels or black out with a marker. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

In the spring, Americans turned in nearly 470 tons of prescription drugs at more than 6,200 sites operated by the DEA and nearly 5,000 of its state and local law enforcement partners. Overall, in its 17 previous Take Back events, the DEA and its partners have taken in over 11 million pounds—over 5,900 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 poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health shows year after year that the majority of misused and abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including someone else's medication being stolen 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.

For more information about the October 26<sup>th</sup> Take Back Day event, visit <a href="www.DEATakeBack.com">www.DEATakeBack.com</a> or call Communications Coordinator Ashley Eccles at 847-658-5676.

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 Communications Coordinator at 847-658-5676 unless otherwise noted.