



City of North Canton, Ohio

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Media Release

NORTH CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT TAKING BACK UNWANTED
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS SEPTEMBER 27, 2014 AT NORTH CANTON CITY HALL
145 NORTH MAIN STREET, CITY HALL GROUND FLOOR LOBBY

[North Canton, OH.] – On September 27, 2014 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the North Canton Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its ninth opportunity in three years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to the North Canton Police Department at 145 North Main Street. ***Please note, the DEA cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps, only pills or patches.*** The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. If anyone is unable to participate on that date, the police department has a permanent drug drop box where pharmaceutical drugs in the form of pills, liquids and creams can be safely deposited 24/7.

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 Last April, Americans turned in 390 tons (over 780,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at nearly 6,100 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,400 of its state and local law enforcement partners. When those results are combined with what was collected in its eight previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 4.1 million pounds—more than 2,100 tons—of pills. 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.

On September 8, 2014, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) made available for public view a final rule regarding the disposal of pharmaceutical controlled substances in accordance with the Controlled Substance Act, as amended by the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010 (“Disposal Act”). The final rule is available for public view at <http://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection>. The final rule was officially published in the Federal Register on September 9, 2014, and will be available on <http://www.regulations.gov>, and DEA website, <http://www.DEAdiversion.usdoj.gov>. This General Public Fact Sheet contains a general summary of some of the effects of the new rule on the general public. For detailed information, please visit their website or contact your local DEA office.

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