



City of North Canton, Ohio

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Chief of Police



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Media Release

NORTH CANTON POLICE DEPARTMENT TAKING BACK UNWANTED
PRESCRIPTION DRUGS SETEMBER 26, 2015 AT NORTH CANTON CITY HALL
145 N. MAIN STREET, (City Hall Ground Floor Lobby)

[North Canton, OH.] – On Saturday, September 26th, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the North Canton Police Department along with the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County, Stark County Anti-Drug Coalition, Stark County Opiate Task Force and Stark County Police Chiefs’ Association are collaborating again to rid our community of unneeded, unused and unwanted prescription medications. The goal is to help citizens of Stark County safely dispose of these prescriptions, keeping dangerous drugs out of the illicit drug supply pipeline.

This confidential program allows adults to drop off medications in all forms including pills, liquids, creams, as well as, items such as syringes and tubing. Law enforcement officers will be on hand to secure and hold all medications. After the event, the drugs will be weighed and incinerated at high temperature without harm to the environment. Questions? Contact Fran Gerbig at 330-430-3949(Mental Health and Recovery Services Board). Bring your medications for disposal to the North Canton Police Department at 145 N. Main Street. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

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. 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.

Currently, residents can get rid of unwanted prescriptions at the police department’s safe drop box located just inside the doors to City Hall, off the parking lot. The drop box is accessible 24/7 and free of charge.

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