



RACINE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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MEDIA RELEASE

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A PRESCRIPTION FOR CLEAN WATER AND SAFE KIDS: RACINE COUNTY FREE HOUSEHOLD MEDICATION COLLECTION

On Saturday, April 22nd, the Racine County Sheriff's Office, Central Racine County Health Department and the Village of Union Grove are planning a FREE HOUSEHOLD MEDICATION COLLECTION in conjunction with the National Drug Take Back Unwanted Prescription Drugs Program. Residents are invited to drop off any outdated or unused medication, including prescription medication. Event details are as follows:

- **Date:** Saturday, April 22, 2017
- **Time:** 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
- **Location:** Union Grove Municipal Building
925 15th Avenue, Union Grove, WI 53182
(SE Corner of US 45 & STH 11 in the Village of Union Grove)

This effort will continue to bring focus to the issue prescription painkiller abuse in Wisconsin. Drug Take Back Day provides a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposal, while also educating the community about the potential abuse and consequences of improper storage and disposal of these medications.

"More than two thirds of people who have abused prescription painkillers got them illegally from a friend or family member," said Wisconsin Attorney General Brad Schimel. "Wisconsinites can help cut down on prescription drug abuse by storing prescription drugs securely and disposing of unused medication through proper methods, like DOJ's biannual Drug Take Back Day."

Unused or expired medicine should never be flushed or poured down the drain. Water reclamation facilities are not designed to remove all of them and trace amounts of pharmaceuticals are showing up in rivers and lakes.

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GUIDELINES:

All waste pharmaceuticals must be generated by a household – no businesses are allowed.

Bring: Prescription (controlled and non-controlled) and over-the-counter medications, ointments, patches, inhalers, non-aerosol sprays, creams, vials and pet medications.

Do Not Bring: Illegal drugs, needles/sharps, acids, aerosol cans, bio-hazardous materials (anything containing a bodily fluid or blood), personal care products (shampoo, soaps, lotions, sunscreens), household hazardous waste (paint, pesticides, oil, gas), mercury thermometers.

- Participants may dispose of solid, non-liquid medication(s) by removing the medication from its container and disposing of it directly into a disposal box or into a clear sealable plastic bag. Plastic pill containers should not be collected. Blister packages without the medications being removed are acceptable.
- Liquids will be accepted during this initiative. However, the liquids, creams and sprays must be in their original packaging and their weight evenly distributed within the boxes of collected solid prescription medications. Liquids without the original packaging will not be accepted.
- Illicit substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine are not a part of this initiative and should not be placed in collection containers.

For more information about the disposal of medication and this event please contact:

- Wisconsin Department of Justice. www.DoseOfRealityWI.gov
- Central Racine County Health Department: (262) 898-4460; www.crchd.com
- Racine County Sheriff Office (262) 636-3822 <http://racinecounty.com/government/sheriff-s-office>

Christopher Schmalig
Sheriff, Racine County

By: Lt. Steve Sikora



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