

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Stop drug misuse by dropping off unwanted medication at free disposal event on Oct. 29

Eau Claire, Wis. – October 24, 2022 – Keeping unused medications inside your home makes it more likely other people might find and use them. Bring your unused or unwanted medication to one of two local sites on Saturday, October 29, National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day, to help prevent potentially dangerous situations before they happen.

It's anonymous, easy, and free to drop off your unused medication! Just open your medicine cabinet, gather what you no longer need, remove or cover up personal information on the prescription label, and drop off. This year's take-back day will be held on **Saturday, October 29 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Altoona Police Department** (1904 Spooner Ave.) and **at Marshfield Medical Center-Eau Claire** (curbside service at 2116 Craig Rd., Medical Offices, Door B).

It's important to dispose of unused medication and keep it out of your home. Younger children or pets may find and accidentally swallow the medication, leading to an accidental poisoning.

Medications you can drop off include prescription and over-the-counter medications, ointments, patches, non-aerosol sprays, inhalers, creams, vials, and pet medications.

- Blister packages are acceptable if the medications aren't removed.
- Liquid medications, creams, and sprays must be in their original packaging.

In 2021, over 2,200 pounds of unused medication was gathered in Eau Claire County through the Take-Back events and year-round drop boxes. By safely disposing of unused medication, you help protect your family, friends, pets, and the community.

"70 percent of people who misuse prescription opioid medication get them from people they know. Unused or expired medications in your home can fall into the hands of those who shouldn't be using them," says Sarah Dillivan-Pospisil, Public Health Specialist with the Eau Claire City-County Health Department. "Help us prevent medication misuse by dropping off your unused medications on Saturday, October 29."

If you can't participate on Saturday, do not flush your medication. Medication drop boxes are available year-round. Find a drop box near you by visiting the Alliance for Substance Misuse Prevention website: www.GetInvolvedASAP.org.

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back event is hosted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and is coordinated locally by the Eau Claire County Sheriff's Office, Altoona Police Department, Marshfield Clinic Health System, Eau Claire City-County Health Department, and the Alliance for Substance Misuse Prevention coalition.

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Dispose of unused medications
Anonymous, free, easy!
Saturday, October 29, 10am-2pm
Marshfield Medical Center - Eau Claire
curbside service
2116 Craig Road
Medical Offices - Door B
Altoona Police Department
1904 Spooner Avenue