

## **Orland Park Police Offer Ongoing Drug Turn In At Police Station**

### *Residents Need Not Wait for Bi-Annual Take Back Days*

ORLAND PARK, IL – The Orland Park Police Department is a regular participant in the Drug Enforcement Administration’s bi-annual National Drug Take Back Day, collecting hundreds of pounds of expired prescription drugs.

“The Police Department’s collections have been very successful, keeping thousands of prescription drugs out of the wrong hands,” said Mayor Dan McLaughlin. “The department is going to make this an ongoing service so village residents don’t have to wait for the national collection days to clear out their medicine cabinets,” the mayor said.

Effective immediately, Village of Orland Park residents can turn in unwanted prescription medications at the Orland Park Police Station, 15100 South Ravinia Avenue, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. Prescriptions will not be accepted on holidays and liquid drugs, aerosol medications and hypodermic needles and syringes will not be accepted.

“Having the turn-in available as an ongoing service will help a lot of people,” McLaughlin said. “We’ve heard from families who, when a loved one dies, aren’t sure how to properly dispose of the remaining medicines. The Police Department offering the drug collection four days a week will help a lot of people,” the mayor said.

Residents are currently able to dispose of properly contained syringes, carefully enclosing the needle in a coffee can or bio-hazard container, with their household garbage pick up. Instructions for how to safely dispose of sharps and syringes are available by calling Waste Management at 1-800-796-9696.

“It’s very important that we keep these prescription drugs out of the wrong hands,” said Trustee Carole Griffin Ruzich, chair of the village’s Public Safety Committee. “Having an ongoing collection at the police station makes this possible,” she added.

“We will accept no longer needed or expired prescription drugs in the lobby of the Orland Park Police Station,” said Chief Tim McCarthy. “We have specially assigned staff to help village residents safely dispose of the prescription drugs they no longer need,” the chief said.

The Orland Park Police Department will continue to participate in the national drug take back days, held nationwide twice a year. For more information, call 708/349-4111.

**PHOTO CAPTION**

Village of Orland Park residents can now dispose of no longer needed or expired prescription and over the counter medications at the Orland Park Police Station, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., except for holidays. The police station is located at 15100 South Ravinia Avenue. Liquid drugs, aerosol medications and hypodermic needles and syringes will not be accepted.