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## Orland Park Police Participate in April 30 National Drug Take Back Day

**ORLAND PARK POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**Got Drugs?**  
**National Take Back Day**  
Saturday, April 30, 2016  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Orland Park Police Station  
15100 South Ravinia Avenue



- Safely dispose of no longer needed or expired prescription medicines, keeping them out of the wrong hands.
- Liquid drugs, aerosol medications and hypodermic needles and syringes are NEVER accepted.
- The Orland Park Police Department also conducts a week day collection Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. No collections on holidays.

The Orland Park Police Department will again join law enforcement agencies across the country on April 30 when the nation observes National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. Residents are encouraged to drop off no longer needed prescription medications at the Orland Park Police Station on Saturday, April 30 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. The station is located at 15100 South Ravinia Avenue.

"The Village of Orland Park has long been committed to doing its part to keep unused prescription drugs from getting into the wrong hands," said Mayor Dan McLaughlin. "Orland Park's collection has been a great relief for many families. When someone dies, family members don't know where or how to safely dispose of the medicines. This lets them do that and gives peace of mind knowing they're being safely destroyed."

There is no cost to participate and the turn in is confidential and anonymous. Glass containers, aerosol canisters, intravenous solutions or syringes will not be accepted.

"The Orland Park Police Department offers a year round collection at the station and still participates in the national initiatives twice a year, making it even more convenient for people to clear out their medicine cabinets and get rid of medicines they no longer need," said Trustee Dan Calandriello, chair of the village's Public Safety Committee.

During the last nationwide collection in October, 2015, more than 3800 federal, state and local authorities collected more than 702,365 pounds of unused, expired or unwanted drugs at more than 5000 collection sites across the country. The fall collection was the tenth National Take Back Initiative since September, 2010 and cumulatively, these events have collected 5,525,021 pounds of drugs.

The Village of Orland Park, through its Police Department, has collected more than 3800 pounds of no longer needed prescription meds since enrolling in the program.

"The Village of Orland Park has been in the forefront of battling illegal drug use within the community and the region, collecting thousands of pounds of no longer needed prescription drugs," said Police Chief Tim McCarthy. "We invite and encourage everyone to clean out their medicine cabinets and get rid of what they no longer need," the chief said.

The Police Department's ongoing collection enables residents to 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 are not accepted on holidays and liquid drugs, aerosol medications and hypodermic needles and syringes are not accepted. There is no charge to participate and all disposals are confidential and anonymous.

Orland Park Police Lieutenant Joe Mitchell has been coordinating the village's participation for the past four years.

"We ask everyone to check their medicine cabinets and bring what they no longer need to the police station on April 30. We don't want these very lethal prescription drugs getting into the wrong hands," Mitchell said.

"Getting dangerous medicines out of homes is an important part of the message being shared by the Orland Park Substance Awareness Forum," McLaughlin said.

McLaughlin created OPSAF last spring to bring together experts from throughout the region to battle substance abuse in the community. The group includes first responders, medical professionals, school administrators, substance abuse experts, clergy, legislators and more. Instructions for how to safely dispose of sharps or syringes are available by calling Waste Management at 1-800-796-9696.