



KENTWOOD POLICE DEPARTMENT

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Kentwood Police Department to Host National Drug Take Back Day Event Oct. 28

Kentwood, Michigan, Oct. 16, 2023 – The Kentwood Police Department is encouraging community members to take part in National Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, Oct. 28.

The department will host an event from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Kentwood Police Department, 4742 Walma Ave. SE. The department will collect tablets, capsules, patches and other solid forms of prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Liquid products, such as cough syrup, should remain sealed in its original container. The cap must be tightly sealed to prevent leakage. The event will also accept vaping devices and cartridges as long as lithium batteries are removed. Syringes, sharps and illicit drugs will not be accepted.

The national observance is part the Drug Enforcement Administration’s National Prescription Drug Take Back initiative. It aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible way for community members to dispose of prescription drugs while also educating the public about the potential for abuse of medications.

“When community members properly dispose of medication, it helps prevent identity theft, accidental poisonings, drug addiction and overdose deaths, while keeping medication from polluting landfills and sewer systems,” Kentwood Police Chief Bryan Litwin said. “From saving a life to protecting the environment, participating in Drug Take Back Day is an impactful way residents can be part of our community effort.”

For individuals unable to attend the event, the Kentwood Police Department also has a year-round Drug Take Back Program. Community members can safely dispose of unused and/or expired prescription medications in the Kentwood Police Department’s lobby 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. To learn more about the program, visit kentwood.us/DrugTakeBack.

Law enforcement agencies across the nation partner with the DEA to host Drug Take Back Day events every October and April as part of ongoing efforts to combat prescription drug misuse and overdose deaths. The events provide timely opportunities for residents to safely and securely dispose of unneeded medications to help address this public safety and public health issue. Studies have shown

most abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet.

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