



Kingman County Sheriff's Office

Randy L. Hill, Sheriff

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Kingman County Sheriff's Office to 'Take Back' unwanted Rx drugs *Drop-off sites in Kingman and Norwich open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26*

The Kingman County Sheriff's Office will participate in National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 26. The public can drop off medications for disposal at the Kingman County Law Enforcement Center, 120 N. Spruce in Kingman, or the Norwich City Hall, 226 S. Main in Norwich. The service is free and anonymous. No questions will be asked.

This is the seventh time in three years that the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has partnered with local agencies to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs.

A similar event held locally in April 2013 led to the collection of approximately 60 pounds of old medications, according to Kingman County Sheriff Randy Hill. Nationwide, Americans turned in 371 tons (more than 742,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at more than 5,800 sites operated by the DEA and its thousands of state and local law enforcement partners. In its six previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners took in more than 2.8 million pounds of pills.

All prescription and over-the-counter medications may be dropped off, including veterinary drugs. Even pre-loaded syringes may be dropped off as long as the needle has been removed. Epi-pens also are acceptable but inhalers are not because they are pressurized containers. Drugs may be brought in their original containers and it is up to individuals whether they choose to remove the prescription label. That is not required.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

The DEA is in the process of approving new regulations that implement the Safe and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010, which amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow an "ultimate user" of controlled substance medications (a patient, family member or pet owner) to dispose of them by delivering them to entities authorized by the Attorney General to accept them.

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