



ALLEGHENY COUNTY

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County Police Participating in April 24 National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

PITTSBURGH – The Allegheny County Police Department will once again participate in the Drug Enforcement Agency’s (DEA) National Take-Back Initiative being held Saturday, April 24, 2021 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is the DEA’s 20th bi-annual event focused on offering an opportunity for the public to surrender expired, unwanted, or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications to law enforcement officers for destruction.

“We know that the United States has seen an increase in overdose deaths during the COVID-19 pandemic, with 83,544 Americans,” said Superintendent Christopher Kearns. “Locally, there have been 674 overdose deaths in the county alone during 2020. Everything that we can do to remove medications from the hands of people other than those to which they were prescribed is a positive step.”

The April 24 collection will be held at three separate sites:

North Park Police Station	700 West Ridge Drive, McCandless
South Park Police Station	1801 Brownsville Road, South Park
Wilmerding Police Substation	315 Station Street, Wilmerding

Any over-the-counter, controlled substance or prescription-required drugs can be dropped off. Tablets, capsules, ointments, creams, and liquids will be accepted in packaging. There is no need to take medicines out of the original package or container. Sharpies and syringes will not be accepted due to safety reasons.

The event is absolutely anonymous, and no questions or requests for identification will be made by law enforcement personnel to anyone submitting medications.

Illicit substances such as marijuana or methamphetamine are not part of this initiative and should not be placed in collection boxes.

The October 2020 event resulted in collections of close to 500 tons of medicines. In the history of the event, more than 6,800 tons of unwanted medicines have been collected by various partners with the DEA.

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