

Department of Justice

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FOURTH NATIONAL TAKE BACK INITIATIVE

TO BE HELD APRIL 28TH

BUFFALO, N.Y.--U.S. Attorney William J. Hochul Jr. and Drug Enforcement Administration Resident Agent in Charge Dale Kasprzyk today announced that the public will have another opportunity to prevent prescription pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous prescription drugs that are expired, unused or unwanted.

The fourth National Take Back Initiative will take place this Saturday, April 28th from 10:00A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

During the first three National Take Back events in September 2010, April 2011, and October 2011, Americans turned in nearly 500 tons of prescription drugs. Over 10 tons were collected right here in Western New York.

The event is free and anonymous with no questions asked. The public can drop off expired, unused or unwanted prescription drugs which could be dangerous if left in the family's medicine cabinet.

"During the three previous take back events, Western New York residents turned in more than 10 tons of prescription drugs that they no longer wanted or needed," said U.S. Attorney Hochul. "Such events allow for the proper disposal of pills which could otherwise end up in the wrong hands. When used as prescribed by a doctor, prescription pills can provide a great benefit but when misused, they can be dangerous and possibly deadly."

"Prescription drug abuse is a major epidemic across the country and DEA is committed to reducing the potential for misuse by providing a safe and secure method for Americans to clean out their medicine cabinets and properly dispose of unwanted, unneeded, or expired medication," said DEA Administrator Michele M. Leonhart. "Americans responded overwhelmingly to DEA's first three Take-Back Day events, disposing of nearly

500 tons of medication in the past two years. This nationwide community effort prevents home medicine cabinets from becoming sources of dangerous – and even deadly – drugs."

Four days after the first take back event in September 2010, Congress passed the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act of 2010, which amends the Controlled Substances Act to allow an "ultimate user" of controlled substance medications to dispose of them by delivering them to entities authorized by the Attorney General to accept them. The Act also allows the Attorney General to authorize long term care facilities to dispose of their residents' controlled substances in certain instances. The DEA is drafting regulations to implement the Act, a process that can take as long as 24 months. Until new regulations are in place, local law enforcement agencies like the United States Attorney's Office and the DEA will continue to hold prescription drug take-back events every few months.

The following is a list of local collection sites:

Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Ave., Buffalo

St. Joseph's Hospital, 2605 Harlem Rd., Cheektowaga

West Seneca Senior Center, 4620 Seneca St., West Seneca

Buffalo State College "C" Lot, 1300 Elmwood Ave., Buffalo

Kenmore Mercy Hospital, 2950 Elmwood Ave., Kenmore

West Herr Collision Center, 5140 Camp Road, Hamburg

Millard Fillmore Suburban Hospital, 1540 Maple Rd., Williamsville

DeGraff Memorial Hospital, 445 Tremont St. North Tonawanda

Twin District Fire Department, 4999 William St., Lancaster

Mercy Ambulatory Center, 3669 Southwestern Blvd, Orchard Park

Grand Island Town Hall, 2255 Baseline Rd., Grand Island

Lockport Plaza, South Transit and Willow Streets, Lockport

North Collins Police Department, 10543 Main St., North Collins

Former Niagara Falls Police Headquarters, 520 Hyde Park, Niagara Falls

Mt. St. Mary's Hospital, 5300 Military Rd., Lewiston

Bertrand Chafee Hospital, 224 E. Main St., Springville

Gowanda Village Municipal Building, 27 East Main St., Gowanda

Cattaraugus Indian Reservation Health Center, 36 Thomas Indian School Drive, Irving

Pembroke Town Highway Barns, Routes 5 and 77, East Pembroke

Batavia Police Department, 10 W. Main St., Batavia

Arcade Police Station, 17 Church St., Arcade

Wyoming County Sheriff's Department, 151 North Main St, Warsaw

Alstar Hqs. North, 738 Monroe St., Dunkirk

LeRoy Police Department, 3 W. Main St. Le Roy

Salamanca City Municipal Building, 225 Wildwood Ave., Salamanca

Lionel R. John Health Center, 987 R.C. Hoag Dr., Salamanca

Medina Fire Department, 600 Main St., Medina

Orleans County Public Safety Building, 13925 State Route 31, Albion

Geneseo Fire Department, 132 Center St., Geneseo

Holley Fire Department, 7 Thomas St., Holley

E. Avon Fire Department, 1615 W. Henrietta Road, Avon

Cuba Volunteer Fire Department, 51 East Main St., Cuba

Cattaraugus County Office Building, 1 Leo Moss Dr., Olean

Chautauqua Mall, 318 East Fairmount Ave., Lakewood

Brockport Police Department, 1 Clinton St., Brockport

Dansville Fire Department, 11 Franklin St., Dansville

Wellsville Fire Department, 40 South Main St., Wellsville

Jamestown Pharmacy, 121 Liberty St., Jamestown