

GREENBELT POLICE DEPARTMENT



MEDIA RELEASE

APRIL 4, 2019

10:47 A.M.

GREENBELT POLICE AGAIN TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS APRIL 27TH AT POLICE DEPARTMENT, SPRINGHILL LAKE RECREATION CENTER

On April 27 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Greenbelt Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. This year there will be TWO drop-off locations. Bring your medicine for disposal to either the Greenbelt Police Department at 550 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD or to the Springhill Lake Recreation Center at 6101 Cherrywood Lane, Greenbelt, MD. (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

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 their 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.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the April 27 Take Back Day event, go to the [DEA Diversion website](http://www.dea.gov/diversion).

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