

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Lakeway police to collect unwanted prescription drugs

Lakeway Police Department will join agencies across the country to collect unwanted and expired prescription medications as part of the National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.

The public may drop off their medications from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 28 in the parking lot of the Lakeway Justice Center, 104 Cross Creek.

“Take-back programs are the best way to dispose of old drugs and prevent them from being abused or disposed improperly,” Lakeway Police Chief Todd Radford said. “Please take advantage of our Take-Back Day to drop off your unwanted or expired prescription medications.”

Unused or expired prescription medications are a public safety issue, leading to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse. Pharmaceutical drugs can be just as dangerous as street drugs when taken without a prescription or a doctor’s supervision, according to the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, which is leading the nationwide effort.

The non-medical use of prescription drugs ranks second only to marijuana as the most common form of drug abuse in America. The majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs get them from family and friends — and the home medicine cabinet.

Unused prescription drugs thrown in the trash may be retrieved and abused or illegally sold. Unused drugs that are flushed contaminate the water supply. Proper disposal of unused drugs saves lives and protects the environment.

The Lakeway and Bee Cave police departments will accept prescription medications, over-the-counter medications, liquid medications, such as cough syrup, vitamins, herbal supplements and pet medicine.

They will not accept needles and sharps, EpiPens, mercury thermometers, chemotherapy or radioactive substances, oxygen containers, pressurized containers/inhalers or illicit drugs.

No effort will be made to count, inventory or log medications.

For information on prescription drug abuse, go to:

- www.DEA.gov
- www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com
- www.JustThinkTwice.com

For information on the local event, call Lakeway Police Department at 512-314-7590.

Media Contact:

Devin Monk

City of Lakeway Communications Coordinator

512-314-7509 (office) devinmonk@lakeway-tx.gov