## **OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE**

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October 8, 2019

News release

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Medication collection event to be held at Kenosha County Center on Oct. 26

Kenosha County will participate in the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency's national Prescription Drug Take-Back Day from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 26.

Residents are encouraged to bring unwanted, unused prescription and over-the-counter medications to the Kenosha County Center, 19600 75th St., Bristol.

Those who are unable to make it to the Oct. 26 event may also utilize one of the six medication drop boxes that the Kenosha County Medication Disposal program offers 365 days a year.

"Your home becomes a safer place when you dispose of unneeded medications," said Kenosha County Executive Jim Kreuser. "Drug Take-Back Day is a great reminder to take care of this. And if you can't make it that day, you can visit one of our permanent drop boxes any time."

The Kenosha County Division of Health notes that removing unused medication from the household can help to prevent prescription drug abuse and accidental poisonings. Doing so also helps to protect local waterways from contamination that may occur if medicine is flushed down the toilet or thrown in the garbage.

Since 2009, the Medication Disposal program has collected more than 10 tons of medication.

Permanent drop-off locations and hours are as follows:

- Kenosha County Public Safety Building, 1000 55<sup>th</sup> St., 8 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, excluding holidays (drop-off site users will be buzzed in after hours).
- Pleasant Prairie Police Department, 8600 Green Bay Road (Highway 31), 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Salem Lakes Village Hall, 9814 Antioch Road (Highway 83), 8 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday-Friday, excluding holidays.

- Somers Village/Town Hall, 7511 12<sup>th</sup> St. (Highway E), 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, excluding holidays.
- Twin Lakes Police Department, 920 Lance Drive, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- University of Wisconsin-Parkside Police Department, 900 Wood Road (Tallent Hall, east side of building), 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Items acceptable for deposit in the drop boxes include prescription drugs, over-the-counter medications, ointments and creams, pet medications, sprays, inhalers and liquids. If keeping medication in its original package, please cross out personal information or peel off the label. All medication should be enclosed in a sealed bag before it is placed in the drop box.

Unacceptable items include biohazardous materials, needles/sharps/syringes and illegal drugs.

Another option – the Wisconsin Drug Repository – is available for those seeking to dispose of unopened, unexpired medications. These drugs are then donated to people with cancer or chronic disease who do not have insurance or are underinsured.

More information about the program and medications eligible for donation is at <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/guide/cancer-drugrepo.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/guide/cancer-drugrepo.htm</a>. The Kenosha-area drop-off sites associated with the program are the Kenosha County Division of Health, 8600 Sheridan Road, Suite 600, and Good Value Pharmacy's Festival Foods location, 3207 80<sup>th</sup> St., and Larsen-Mayer location, 3825 39<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Those with questions about the county's Medication Disposal Program and the upcoming Drug Take-Back Day events may contact the Division of Health at 262-605-6700. More information, including a program brochure, is also online at <a href="http://bit.ly/KCMedDisposal">http://bit.ly/KCMedDisposal</a>.

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