



News Release

Alachua County Sheriff's Office

Sadie Darnell, Sheriff

P.O. Box 5489 Gainesville, Florida 32627

Office (352) 367-4050 • Fax (352) 374-1808 • <http://www.alachuasheriff.org>



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Prepared by: Lt. Brandon Kutner

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Media Advisory: ACSO Participating in DEA National Take-Back Initiative

The Alachua County Sheriff's Office will be participating in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. The event has been scheduled for this Saturday, April 30, 2016, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. This is a great opportunity for those who missed the previous events, or who have accumulated unwanted, unused prescription drugs, to safely dispose of those medications.

Last September, Americans turned in 700,000 pounds – 350 tons – of prescription drugs at nearly 5,000 sites operated by the DEA and more than 3,000 state and local law enforcement partners. 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 United States 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 members or 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 as well. The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient and responsible means of disposal, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of these medications. Listed below are the participating Alachua County locations.

Bring your unwanted or unused medications to the following Walgreen's locations for disposal:

1. 1120 East University Avenue
2. 9125 NW 39th Avenue
3. 2415 SW 75th Street

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PIO Lt. Brandon Kutner
Office: (352) 367-4041
Cell: (352) 260-7681

PIO Art Forgey
Office: (352) 367-4045
Cell: (352) 538-0861