

Got Drugs?



Medication Take Back Initiative
April 30, 2016
10:00AM – 2:00PM
East Lyme Police Department

On April 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the town of East Lyme and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its 11th opportunity in six years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to the East Lyme Police Department and East Lyme Resident Trooper's Office located at 278 Main St. Niantic. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last September, Americans turned in 350 tons (over 702,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at more than 5,000 sites operated by the DEA and more than 3,800 of its state and local law enforcement partners. Overall, in its 10 previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 5.5 million pounds—more than 2,750 tons—of pills. East Lyme has taken in over 700 pounds during our participation in the National effort as well as several hundred more pounds since the installation of the Medication Drop Box located at the police station.

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.

Please assist us in helping to prevent the misuse of medications and potentially saving lives.