



City of Murphy
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News Release

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Drug Take Back Day set at Murphy PD on October 26

MURPHY (October 10, 2019) Drugs and medications, whether those prescribed by a health practitioner or those purchased over-the-counter at a drug store, are designed for a specific purpose and have a usefulness that often carry an expiration date.

Once expired, the medicines are either no longer effective or can be counterproductive. Conversely, after the ailment or illness they were being taken for has subsided, the medications are no longer needed. Add to that, tragic results can occur from the curiosity of young children looking into and taking items out of the medicine cabinet.

Disposing of these drugs and medications can be a problem. Few solutions arise when trying to decide what to do with them when they reach their expiration date, are no longer needed or are not safe to store.

To address that issue, Murphy Police have scheduled a Drug Take Back event on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Murphy Police Department lobby, 206 North Murphy Road.

“Medications can be nothing short of miraculous when they’re taken properly and for the right reasons,” says Police Lt. Adana Barber. “But, getting rid of them once their usefulness ends can be an issue. That’s why we offer the Drug Take Back events, providing residents with the opportunity to safely dispose of these potentially harmful substances.”

The free service is designed to provide a place where unwanted or expired drugs can be safely and securely removed from circulation. Accepting these substances also prevents them from being introduced into the water supply.

Several fully-attended collection receptacles will be available to accept the drugs for eventual disposal. The service is anonymous, as no one will be asked questions regarding the medications.

The program, however, is not intended for illicit or illegal drugs or paraphernalia. And, needles, syringes and pressurized inhalers will not be accepted. The last several Drug Take Back events have resulted in residents bringing in an average of 200 pounds of unused, unwanted, expired or unknown drugs, both prescription and over-the-counter drugs.

“These drugs need to be properly disposed of in order to prevent them from being abused,” she said. “Over 70 percent of people abusing prescription pain relievers get them through friends or relatives right out of the family medicine cabinet.”

Also, people who flush prescription drugs down their toilets or sinks may be placing the community at risk, since the contaminated wastewater may eventually find its way back into the system.

For more information on the program, residents may call (972) 468-4210 or send an e-mail to Lt. Barber at abarber@murphytx.org.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 20,010, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income well above the state average. With more than 80 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a family-oriented community with a strong sense of place. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.