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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 3, 2023

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Sheriff's Office to host collection site for National Drug Take Back Day

Community members can bring unused medication to drive-through site, 111 E. 11th Street, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 22

LAWRENCE — Douglas County residents can remove expired and unneeded medications from their homes as the Douglas County Sheriff's Office will operate a National Drug Take Back Day collection site in downtown Lawrence on April 22.

The drive-through site will be open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., April 22, in the parking lot outside the Douglas County Courthouse, 1100 Massachusetts St., and the Sheriff's Office will accept expired or unused prescription and over-the-counter medications.

The Sheriff's Office is partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration for the 24th Drug Take Back Day event. The event is free to the public and anonymous.

The goal behind National Drug Take Back Day is to provide a safe disposal of unneeded medications from homes to prevent medication misuse or opioid addiction, for example. Proper disposal can also eliminate improper environmental disposal into the water supply.

"The Sheriff's Office continues to offer these events so that residents can have a safe and convenient way to dispose of unused medications. It's important for the community to offer this option so people can clean out their cabinets and know they will be disposed of safely," Sheriff Jay Armbrister said.

The Sheriff's Office cannot accept needles, sharps or inhalers. Veterinary drugs are accepted. University of Kansas School of Pharmacy students are scheduled to volunteer at the site as well.

In the most recent National Drug Take Back Day in October 2022, 4,340 law enforcement agencies across the country participated and collected a total of 324 tons of unused or expired medication.

Anyone across the country can visit DEATakeBack.com to find a collection site near you.

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