



Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office is Taking Back Unwanted Prescription Drugs October 24

Brainerd, MN - On Saturday, Oct. 24, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will provide the public the opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your prescription medications for disposal to the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office at 304 Laurel Street in Brainerd. Prescription medications can also be disposed of at numerous other Law Enforcement agencies throughout Crow Wing County, during normal business hours, through the "Take It To The Box" Initiative. More information and a list of drop off sites can be found at <https://www.crowwing.us/1608/Take-It-To-The-Box>. (Sites cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Take It To The Box locations (hours vary by location) include the following:

- Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office - 304 Laurel St, Brainerd
- Breezy Point Police Department - 8361 Co Rd 11, Breezy Point
- Crosby Police Department - 2 2nd St SW, Crosby
- Crosslake Police Department - 37028 Co Rd 66, Crosslake
- Nisswa Police Department - 5442 City Hall St, Nisswa
- Pequot Lakes Police Department - 4638 Co Rd 11, Pequot Lakes

Disposal boxes are permanently available at all of these locations and are accessible during normal business hours. Prescription medications can be disposed of outside of the date and time of this event.

This month's event is the DEA's 19th nationwide event since its inception 10 years ago.

Last fall, Americans turned in nearly 883,000 pounds of prescription drugs at nearly 6,300 sites operated by the DEA and almost 5,000 of its state and local law enforcement partners. The DEA, along with its law enforcement partners, has now collected nearly 6,350 tons of expired, unused, and unwanted prescription medications since the inception of the National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative in 2010.

To keep everyone safe, collection sites will follow local COVID-19 guidelines and regulations.

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.

In addition to DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, there are many other ways to dispose of unwanted prescription drugs every day, including the 11,000 authorized collectors that are available all year long. For more information, visit [DEA's year-round collection site locator](#).

The FDA also provides information on how to properly dispose of prescription drugs. More information is available here: <https://www.fda.gov/consumers/consumer-updates/where-and-how-dispose-unused-medicines>.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October 24 Take Back Day event, go to www.DEATakeBack.com or <https://www.crowwing.us/1608/Take-It-To-The-Box>.