

## **POLICE CHIEF KELLEY WARNER**

101 NORTH MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA 22802 OFFICE: (540) 437-2600 FAX: (540) 437-2691

WWW.HARRISONBURGVA.GOV/POLICE

For Immediate Release April 29, 2022

Contact: Lt. Chris Monahan HPD Public Information Officer (540) 432-8905 hpd-pio@harrisonburgva.gov

DEA and HPD Partner for Drug Take Back Day on April 30th

Harrisonburg, VA – On Saturday April 30, 2022, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Harrisonburg Police Department (HPD) and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will join forces for the DEA NATIONAL RX TAKE BACK DAY. This partnership provides the public a great opportunity to safely dispose of expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs.

Many of these medications accumulate in homes over time and can present dangers to children, but also to people of all ages, including accidental ingestion or the start of addiction. Additionally, these prescription medications are often disposed of in an unsafe manner, either by flushing them down the toilet, or throwing them away in the trash which could be harmful to the environment.

HPD has also partnered with the Future Latino Coalition who will be present at the drop off locations to assist with the collection and be able to provide guidance to our Spanish speaking population.

We ask that you bring your pills for disposal to one of our two drop off locations, please stay in your car. Park View Mennonite Church located at 1600 College Avenue and Dicks Sporting Goods at 1925 East Market Street in Harrisonburg on the same date and time.

The DEA has a Collection Site Search website to help find convenient locations throughout Virginia. The DEA and its partners will collect tablets, capsules, patches, and other solid forms of prescription drugs. Liquids (including intravenous solutions), syringes and other sharps, and illegal drugs will not be accepted.



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The DEA will continue to accept vaping devices and cartridges at its drop off locations provided lithium batteries are removed.

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 April 30th Take Back Day event, go to www.DEATakeBack.com or contact HPD Community Resource Division at 540-432-8905.

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