



IONIA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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For Immediate Release
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National Take Back Unwanted Prescription Drugs Event in Ionia County

Ionia County, Mich. – On Saturday, October 24th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. the Belding Police Department, Lake Odessa Police Department, Ionia County Sheriff's Office, Portland Police Department, and the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration will provide the public the opportunity to rid their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to one of the locations listed below. Please note that sites cannot accept liquids, needles, or sharps. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Belding Police Department
120 Pleasant St, Belding, MI 48809

Ionia County Sheriff's Office
133 E. Adams Street, Ionia, MI 48846

Lake Odessa Police Department
839 4th Ave, Lake Odessa, MI 48849

Portland Police Department
773 E Grand River Ave, Portland, MI 48875

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. 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.

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.

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

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October 24th Take Back Day event, go to www.DEATakeBack.com.

New This Year: On behalf of Ionia County Substance Abuse Initiative, Mid-State Health Network, and Ionia County Health Department, free locking medication bags/boxes and Narcan/Naloxone kits will be available at the Belding, Lake Odessa, and Portland Police Department sites on October 24th (only), while limited supplies last.

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Ken Bowen, REHS, MS, Health Officer
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Prevent Disease; Prolong Life; Protect the Environment!

