



HERCULES POLICE DEPARTMENT
PRESS RELEASE

TYPE OF INCIDENT HERCULES POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCES A UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION, AND OVER THE COUNTER, DRUG COLLECTION		
DATE AND TIME OF Saturday Sept 27, 2014 10:00am/2:00pm	LOCATION OF INCIDENT Hercules City Hall - Main Parking Lot	

SUMMARY

On Saturday September 27, 2014, from 10:00am to 2:00pm the Hercules Police Department will again give Hercules residents an opportunity to turn in all expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs and over the counter medication. This nationwide program is sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies.

This is the ninth time the DEA has offered the public an opportunity to turn in their unwanted prescription drugs and over the counter medications; and it is the third time Hercules Police Department has offered this service to the citizens of Hercules.

This program addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. In the past many residents have disposed of unused medicines by flushing them down the toilet, or throwing them in the trash. We now know that both of those methods pose a potential health and environmental hazard.

In April 2014 over twenty tons of Prescription, and over the counter, drugs were collected at 207 collection sites in Northern California. As a bonus the disposal collection was converted into energy, through DEA's community partnership with Convanta Energy, Crows Landing CA. The safe and secure disposal of these medication not only saves lives, but protects the environment and ecosystem.

The City of Hercules and the Hercules Police Department urges the residents of Hercules to use the "Take Back" day as an opportunity to dispose of all their expired or unwanted prescription drugs and over the counter medications. Hercules Police Administration, and Reserve Police Officers, will staff the drop off location at the Hercules City Hall Main Parking lot. This program is free and anonymous.

It is recommended you remove prescription pills from the bottles and place the pills in a plastic bag; or remove all personal information from the prescription bottles. Any liquid, or powder, must be in a "sealed" container. Over the Counter medications may be left in the original containers. **NO ILLEGAL DRUGS, OR "SHARPS" (NEEDLES) MAY BE DISPOSED OF AT THIS EVENT.**

For additional information, or other drop off locations, you may contact the DEA website at WWW.dea.gov . You may also check the City of Hercules website at www.ci.hercules.ca.us

	PREPARED BY Connie Van Putten, PIO Desk Phone 510-799-8268 Cell Phone 510-221-1052 cvanputten@ci.hercules.ca.us	DATE Sept 8, 2014
--	---	----------------------