

## WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## Press Release

## **National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative**

(Westport) On Saturday, April 28, 2018, the Westport Police Department, in cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), will be participating in another nationwide "Drug Take Back Day" to remove potentially dangerous controlled substances from our nation's homes.

Officers will be at the Westport Weston Health District, 180 Bayberry Lane, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. so residents can bring expired, unused or unwanted medications for disposal. Needles/sharps will not be accepted. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

This national collaborative effort provides an opportunity for the public to surrender pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications to law enforcement officers for destruction. In our homes, these substances are a potential source of supply for the increasing abuse of pharmaceutical drugs in the United States and an unacceptable risk to public health and safety.

Residents are also reminded that a year-round collection bin is located in the lobby police headquarters so drugs can be properly disposed of at any time rather than waiting for designated collection dates. We also have a supply of medication disposal bags in our lobby which can be used for proper disposal of liquid and pill form medications. The bags have been provided as part of a grant that Positive Directions received and are intended to assist in the proper disposal of prescription medications. They contain activated charcoal, so the medications can be placed in the bags, mixed with water, and then safely disposed of in the regular garbage per the instructions.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 04.23.2018

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