

## National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

The Garden City Police Department will be participating in the Drug Enforcement Agency's (DEA) National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, April 30, 2022, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. A collection center will be maintained by the Garden City Police Department Headquarters at 349 Stewart Avenue, Garden City. This event provides an opportunity for residents to safely discard unwanted, unused, and expired medications.

*As per the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA): Drug overdose deaths are up 16 percent in the last year, claiming more than 290 lives every day. According to a report published by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, a majority of people who misused a prescription medication obtained the medicine from a family member or friend. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that in the United States, more than 106,000 people died as the result of a drug overdose in the 12-month period ending November 2021, marking the most drug-related deaths ever recorded, with opioid-related deaths accounting for 75 percent of all overdose deaths.*

The Garden City Police Department also advises they accept unused, expired, and unwanted medications every day if someone cannot turn in their medications on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Garden City Police Department and DEA Drug Take Back Programs allow for the safe disposal of drugs instead of flushing, burying, or throwing them out in the garbage which poses significant environmental and health risks.