



Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office

Sheriff Jeff Wiley

April 19, 2018

APSO taking back unwanted prescription drugs Saturday, April 28 in Gonzales

On Saturday, April 28 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Ascension Parish Sheriff's Office, Gonzales Police Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs.

Bring your pills for disposal to the Gonzales Courthouse at 828 S. Irma Blvd., Gonzales from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

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 U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the April 28 Take Back Day event, go to the [DEA Diversion website](#) or visit www.ascensionsheriff.com.