Written by George Browning Tuesday, 22 October 2013 00:00 -

This Saturday, October 26, the Indiana State Police will be partnering with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and numerous other law enforcement agencies across the United States in the seventh drug take back event in three years.

Last April, Americans turned in 371 tons of prescription drugs at over 5,829 sites operated by the DEA and its thousands of state and local law enforcement partners across the U.S.

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.

This Saturday, October 26 Hoosiers can dispose of any expired or unwanted drugs by simply taking those drugs to their nearest Indiana State Police Post (with the exception of the Toll Road Post in Bristol, IN) between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and dispose of them in a designated receptacle, no questions asked.

There will also be a drop off site located at the Indiana Government Center on Friday, October 25 between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

It should be noted the drug take back is for pills, capsules, and liquids only. No sharps will be accepted.

For those individuals who do not live near an ISP facility, the links below will assist you in determining the nearest drop off location.