

KAMEG

Public Service Announcement

On Saturday, October 27, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., the Kankakee Area Metropolitan Enforcement Group (KAMEG), Kankakee Police Department, Bradley Police Department, Bourbonnais Police Department, Kankakee County Sheriff's Department, Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Pledge for Life Partnership will give the public its next opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Please bring your unwanted medications for disposal to the Northfield Square Mall at 1600 North State Route 50 in Bourbonnais, Illinois. Please use the east midcourt entrance between Carson's Department Store and Cinemark Movies 10.

This service is free, anonymous, and no questions will be asked. Officers from KAMEG will be stationed to accept medications. According to KAMEG Director Chris Koerner, "The program is a success in our area due to continued public support. During the past two collections, officers have collected over 1,500 pounds of unwanted prescription drugs." Similar to past events, the drop-off location inside the mall will be set-up to allow quick public access to the service. Director Koerner reminds the public that **needles, syringes, and liquids are NOT accepted during the event.**

Director Koerner also advised that if the public is unable to make the event, the following locations have permanent drop boxes: Aroma Park Village Hall, Bradley Police Department, Bourbonnais Police Department, Grant Park Police Department, Herscher Village Hall, Illinois State Police –District 21, Jerome Combs Detention Center, Kankakee Police Department, Kankakee Sheriff's Department, Manteno Police Department, Momence Police Department, and St. Anne Village Hall. Area residents are encouraged to contact their local law enforcement agencies to determine exact locations and hours of availability.

The DEA reports that the response to the National Prescription Drug Take Back Initiative has been overwhelmingly positive. In the previous Take-Back events nationwide from 2010-2015, approximately 2,500 tons of drugs were collected. By participating in the program, the community helps prevent potential safety and health hazards associated with improper prescription drug disposal.

This initiative provides an opportunity for the public to safely dispose of pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications that were not previously collected or have accumulated since the last event.