

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**LEDYARD PD TO HOLD PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK AND RIBBON CUTTING FOR NEW DROP BOX**

Ledyard, CT – On Saturday, October 26, the Ledyard Police Department will join thousands of police departments across the country in offering a prescription drug take-back event for National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day.

The take-back event gives the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous, expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. Interested members of the public can bring their medications for disposal to the Ledyard Police Department at 11 Lorenz Parkway any time between 10 am and 2 pm. This service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

The day will kick off with a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new prescription drug drop box that will be permanently housed in the police department lobby. The new drop box will give residents the opportunity to drop off prescription drugs 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Ledyard Safe Teens Coalition, a program of Ledge Light Health District, purchased the drop box with local prevention funding from the Southeastern Regional Action Council. Ledyard Safe Teens Coalition Coordinator Kerensa Mansfield says that while alcohol has been the coalition's main focus over the past five years, they are looking forward to having the opportunity to expand their focus to prescription drug abuse prevention.

"Prescription drug abuse among teens is a national problem, so we feel it is very important to shed more light on this issue and do our part to educate the community, especially the youth, on the risks of prescription drug abuse," Mansfield said.

Prescription and over-the-counter medications, patches, ointments, vitamins, sample medications and pet medications will be accepted at the prescription drug drop box.

The following will **not** be accepted at the drop box: lotions or liquids, aerosol cans, inhalers, hydrogen peroxide, thermometers, needles or other sharp objects and medication from businesses or clinics.

Prescription drug drop boxes are also available at police departments in the Town and City of Groton, New London and Waterford.

For more information about the prescription drug take-back event or the drop box, contact Kerensa Mansfield at 860-448-4882 ext. 309 or [kmansfield@llhd.org](mailto:kmansfield@llhd.org)

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Ledge Light Health District – LLHD – serves as the local health department for East Lyme, Groton, Ledyard, New London and Waterford, Connecticut. As a health district, formed under [Connecticut General Statutes Section 19a-241](#), LLHD is a special unit of government, allowing member municipalities to provide comprehensive public health services to residents in a more efficient manner by consolidating the services within one organization.

The Director of Health and staff of LLHD work to promote health and wellness among the 120,000 residents we serve. By enforcing the Connecticut Public Health Code, conducting health education programs, monitoring disease outbreaks and nurturing our environment, LLHD is focused on *promoting healthy communities*.

LLHD’s mission statement – **to prevent disease, illness and injury; to protect and nurture our environment; and to promote improved health and prosperity for all residents** – describes in more detail our slogan of “promoting healthy communities.”

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Promoting healthy communities

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