

Sheriff



Larry Ashley, Okaloosa County Sheriff

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OCSO STARTS OWN PRESCRIPTION PILL TAKE BACK INITIATIVE IN RESPONSE TO CITIZEN INPUT



The Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office is offering a new prescription pill takeback program in response to citizen requests. Last April, the OCSO took part in a one day national effort, co-sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, which provided sites for the public to voluntarily surrender expired, unwanted or unused pharmaceutically controlled substances and other medications for destruction.

During the one day event, more than 161 pounds was turned in at the OCSO sites. This not only helped prevent the drugs from being used or sold illegally, but also from being disposed of in ways that can harm the environment, such as flushing them down the toilet.

Many citizens however asked for a safe way to dispose of those substances year-round. In response to the success of the one-day effort and that citizen input, Sheriff Larry Ashley has set up a program that allows the public to drop off unwanted, unused, or expired prescription drugs at the OCSO offices during regular business hours Monday through Friday at the Shalimar Courthouse Annex, North End District Office on Brackin Street, and the Destin substation on Stahlman Avenue.

All patrol deputies have been trained on the new procedures, which are set up according to OCSO protocols.

Since the program involves controlled substances, the OCSO will inventory the drugs submitted, and then turn them over to the evidence section to oversee proper destruction.

For additional information, contact Lt. Mike Card at 850-609-2003.

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