



SUSTAINABLE LONGPORT PRESS INFORMATION

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BOROUGH OF LONGPORT TO PROVIDE A MEDICAL PRESCRIPTION DROP OFF BOX FOR EXPIRED OR NO LONGER NEEDED MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS

(LONGPORT, NJ) – Borough of Longport residents are now able to dispose of expired or no longer needed medical prescriptions at a drop off box inside the Longport Police Department lobby located at 2305 Atlantic Avenue. The drop off box is available for drop off 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The drop off box was provided at no cost to the Borough of Longport by the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs as part of its Project Medicine Drop program.

Project Medicine Drop is an important component of the New Jersey Attorney General's effort to stop the diversion and abuse of prescription drugs, including highly addictive opiate painkillers.

Through this initiative, the State Division of Consumer Affairs installs secure "prescription drug drop boxes" at police departments, sheriff's offices, and State Police barracks across New Jersey, allowing citizens to safely dispose of their unused, excess, or expired prescription medications.

Members of the public are invited to visit the Project Medicine Drop sites and drop off any unused prescription medications anonymously and with no questions asked. Most Project Medicine Drop sites make this service available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year.

By giving New Jerseyans a safe and secure method to dispose of unneeded medications, Project Medicine Drop helps prevent the abuse of these drugs. This initiative also protects New Jersey's environment by keeping these drugs out of landfills and out of the water supply. More information about Project Medicine Drop, including the full list of Project Medicine Drop locations, can be found at www.NJConsumerAffairs.gov/meddrop.

Traditionally, disposal guidelines recommend either flushing remaining medication down toilets or placing it in the trash. Scientific studies have shown that some pharmaceuticals can be found in trace amounts in drinking water supplies. In addition, medicine that is disposed of through the municipal solid waste system has led to increased contamination of landfill leachate.

"Providing a medical prescription drop off box for the proper disposal of no longer needed or expired pharmaceuticals will help keep potentially harmful chemicals out of our water supply and away from

those who might abuse them. We encourage our residents to take advantage of this new service,” said Mayor Nicholas Russo.

Due to recent, dramatic increases in the abuse of household pharmaceuticals, law enforcement officials are recommending swift disposal of no longer needed or expired prescriptions.

Once the box is filled, the prescriptions will be properly disposed of according to New Jersey Drug Enforcement Administration rules and guidelines.

Longport recently joined the Sustainable Jersey program and is striving towards bronze certification. Providing a medical prescription drop off box for residents to properly dispose of no longer needed or expired pharmaceuticals is one of several priority actions recommended in the sustainability program.

By participating in the Sustainable Jersey program, Longport is looking for ways to protect and conserve our natural resources, reduce waste, conserve energy, and leave a better tomorrow for future generations to enjoy.

For more information on the Sustainable Jersey program please visit: www.sustainablejersey.com.

For more information on how to dispose of no longer needed or expired medical prescriptions in Longport, please contact the Longport Police Department at 609.822.2141. For more information on Sustainable Longport please visit www.longportnj.gov.

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