



DEREK S.K. KAWAKAMI, MAYOR  
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## News Release

For Immediate Release: April 22, 2022

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COUNTY OF KAUA'I  
KAUA'I POLICE DEPARTMENT  
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### **KPD to host National Drug Take Back Day next weekend**

LĪHU'E – The Kaua'i Police Department (KPD), in partnership with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), is collecting unused, unwanted, or expired medications for National Drug Take Back Day from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 30, at KPD headquarters located at 3990 Ka'ana Street, in Līhu'e.

The collection, which is the first of its kind to take place this year, will consist of a drive-thru drop-off service in the breezeway at the parking lot roundabout.

Tablets, capsules, liquids, and other forms of medication – prescription or nonprescription – including patches, will be accepted. New or used needles and syringes will not be accepted.

This service is free and anonymous, and no questions will be asked.

The event is part of a national initiative coordinated by the DEA, which focuses on providing a safe, convenient and responsible method of disposing medications while also educating the community about the potential for abuse and consequences of improper storage and disposal.

Expired medication should not be discarded in the trash or flushed down the toilet. Improperly disposed of prescriptions drugs have the potential to enter the water supply and also harm aquatic life.

Expired medication can also contribute to misuse or abuse of the drug. A majority of people who misused a prescription medication obtained it from a family member or friend, according to a report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

The state is now in its 13th year of holding the DEA's Drug Take Back Initiative, which has resulted in a collection of more than 53,000 pounds of prescription medications.

During October's Drug Take Back Day, KPD collected a total of 15 boxes filled with unused, unwanted and expired medications, adding up to a combined weight of 200 pounds.

Anyone who is not able to participate in this National Drug Take Back Day can visit KPD headquarters at any time and anonymously drop off any unused or expired medication via the permanently installed medication dropbox.

For more information on the National Drug Take Back Initiative, please visit the DEA's website at [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov), or contact KPD Investigative Services Bureau Assistant Chief Bryson Ponce at 241-1681.

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