



NEWS RELEASE

Yuma Police Department
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For Immediate Release

Date: Friday, April 18, 2025
Contact: Sergeant Franklin
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National Take Back Initiative

Yuma, AZ –

The Yuma Police Department, in partnership with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), is offering the public an opportunity to help prevent pill abuse and theft by safely disposing of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription medications.

Community members are invited to bring their prescription pills for disposal to the Yuma Police Department, located at 1500 S. 1st Avenue, on **Saturday, April 26, 2025**, from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m.** This service is **free and anonymous**—no identification will be requested.

This initiative addresses a critical public safety and public health concern. Unused or expired medications that remain in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Research shows that many individuals who misuse prescription drugs obtain them from family and friends—often directly from the home medicine cabinet. Traditional methods of disposing of unused medicines, such as flushing them down the toilet or discarding them in the trash, pose significant environmental and health risks.

Please note we are **unable to accept syringes, sharps, liquid products, or illegal drugs** due to the hazardous conditions they pose during the disposal process. We would also like to inform the community that the **medication drop-off box in our vestibule will be permanently removed**. Going forward, additional information will be released once a safe and secure alternative for medication disposal has been established.

Information Released By: Officer Christina Fernandez