

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY AT MASON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

October 11, 2022 – The United States is currently experiencing an epidemic of prescription drug misuse and abuse. Opioid overdose deaths in Michigan have almost tripled in five years. To help turn the tide on this epidemic, the Leeward Initiative coalition is partnering with the Michigan Opioid Prescribing Engagement Network (Michigan OPEN), as well as Michigan State Police, the Mason County Sheriff's Office, West Michigan Community Mental Health, Ludington Police Department, West Michigan Fair Association, and Spectrum Health Ludington Hospital to host a drive-through medication and sharps disposal take-back event on Saturday, October 15, 2022 from 9am-12pm.

Did you know:

- Every 10 minutes a child visits the emergency room for medication poisoning
- 12.5 million people aged 12 and older misused opioids in the last year
- Three in five teens say prescription pain medication is easy to get from their parents' medicine cabinet

Community opioid and medication take-back events provide a safe process for disposing of unused medications while protecting our communities, children, and environment. Please remove the risk from your home and bring your unused and expired medications and sharps, to the Leeward Initiative's medication take-back event at:

Mason County Fairground  
5302 US-10  
Ludington, MI 49431

You can find more details about the event by visiting the Leeward Initiative's Facebook page and events. We ask if you plan on dropping off sharps, please try to have them secured in a plastic container (examples: kitty litter container, sharps disposal box, laundry soap container, gallon jug, etc.).

For questions about this event, please contact Grace Richardson at [grichardson@dhd10.org](mailto:grichardson@dhd10.org) or call 231-316-8583.

For more information or to find other take back event locations throughout Michigan, please visit <https://michigan-open.org/>.

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### MEDIA CONTACT

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Crawford  
Kalkaska  
Lake  
Manistee  
Mason  
Mecosta  
Missaukee  
Newaygo  
Oceana  
Wexford



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