

## Drug Take Back set for Saturday at Brookshire's

Written by Terry Mathews  
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Hopkins County Sheriff's Office will once again be partnering this weekend with the Drug Enforcement Administration to host the seventh Drug Take Back initiative held in Sulphur Springs. This initiative will give people a chance to safely dispose of unused or expired prescription and over-the-counter medications from their homes.

This event takes place at the same date and time across the nation. The local take back day will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 26, in Brookshire's parking lot.

"We want to express appreciation to Brookshire's for allowing us to the use of their location. It is appreciated that we are able to set up this event in a central location that is easily accessible to the citizens of Hopkins County," said HCSO Sgt. Brad Cummings. "I would also like to stress that Brookshire's will not be accepting any medications for this event. Please bring your medications on the Saturday of the event, Please do not take them to Brookshire's because they will not be able to accept the disposal of any medications."

Saturday will mark the eighth time the DEA has partnered with state and local agencies and the seventh time HCSO has participated. In Hopkins County alone, almost 650 pounds of unused or expired medications have been collected so far.

This is also an opportunity to dispose of the medications safely as opposed to flushing them down the toilet and becoming a threat to the environment.

"This is, once again, a no questions asked event. If someone can't make it to the disposal site, but has someone that can bring their medications to the Brookshire's parking lot and dispose of the medications for them, then they will not be questioned as to why they have someone else's medications," Cummings said.

Medications are placed in a cardboard receptacle on the day of the collection, which DEA officials then take to their disposal site and place them in an incinerator. Thus, only pills, liquids, and other solids, like patches, can be brought to the collection site.