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**Winthrop Harbor
Police Department**

March 23, 2015

**POLICE DEPARTMENT ADDS PRESCRIPTION AND OVER THE COUNTER DRUG
DISPOSAL COLLECTION BOX**

Beginning today the Winthrop Harbor Police Department has provided a way for residents to dispose of all unwanted prescriptions drugs and medications in an environmental safe and secure way. Prescription drug abuse is a serious and growing problem. Often these drugs end up in the hands of children. By providing a safe and convenient way to properly dispose of unused, unneeded prescription drugs, we hope to make our community safer, as well as help protect the environment said Chief of Police Joel Brumlik.

Community Relations Officer Adam Zeis did a good job in finding a collection box that would meet the criteria for collection and still fit in our small lobby. He made sure our program met the standards already in place and the department added policy and procedures to ensure the safe collection and disposal of all drugs in accordance with all local, state, county and federal laws, including the EPA, said Brumlik. Winthrop Harbor joins a number of area police departments including Zion, who were instrumental in getting this program started in cooperation with the county and Save a Star, drug awareness foundation.

We are glad our residents now have a convenient and safe alternative for disposing of their not needed and unwanted prescriptions and medications.

The following is a list of accepted and not accepted items.

ACCEPTED ITEMS

1. Homeopathic remedies
2. Liquid medication in lead-proof containers
3. Medicated ointments, lotions, creams, and oils
4. Medication samples
5. Over-the-counter medications
6. Pet medications
7. Prescription medications, including controlled substances
8. Vitamins and supplements

NOT ACCEPTED

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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1. Bloody or infectious waste
2. Empty containers
3. Hydrogen Peroxide
4. IV bags
5. Needles/sharps
6. Personal care products
7. Syringes with needles
8. Thermometers