



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Michigan Pharmacists Association to Hold Seventh Annual Medication Disposal Event at the Capitol

- WHO:** Michigan Pharmacists Association
- WHAT:** Seventh Annual Medication Disposal Event @ the Capitol
- WHEN:** Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2016, from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Press conference will begin at 11 a.m.
- WHERE:** Michigan State Capitol, south lawn, Lansing

WHY: Millions of Americans abuse prescription medications, and according to many studies, they obtain these medications from family members, friends or out of household medicine cabinets. Many people do not know proper medication disposal practices, and MPA's medication disposal event provides an opportunity for the general public to learn about appropriate disposal. This event also provides an opportunity for the public to properly dispose of any unwanted, unused or expired medications, including narcotics and controlled substances. Medications can be dropped off in the disposal tent on the south lawn, or curbside drop-off will be available at the intersection of Capitol Ave. and Michigan Ave.

At the 2015 medication disposal event, MPA collected nearly 600 pounds of unused and expired medications with an estimated value of more than \$1 million. Since MPA began the medication disposal event five years ago, a total of 1.6 tons of pharmaceuticals have been collected and properly disposed of, with a total value of more than \$4 million.

The press conference will highlight the expanding and innovative roles of pharmacists and the importance of their involvement in proper medication disposal as well as the work that MPA has done with the Governor's Office, Michigan Department of Community Health, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Michigan State Police related to medication abuse. For more information, visit www.MichiganPharmacists.org/MedicationDisposal.

Speakers (to date):

- Rick Snyder, Governor, State of Michigan
- Larry Wagenknecht, pharmacist, chief executive officer, Michigan Pharmacists Association
- Amy Smendik, president, Michigan Pharmacists Association
- Brian Peters, chief executive officer, Michigan Health & Hospital Association
- Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

Michigan Pharmacists Association strives to serve members by providing support, advocacy and resources that ultimately improve patient care, safety, health and the practice of pharmacy. For more information, visit www.MichiganPharmacists.org.

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