



*City of Hartford*

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**Hartford Lions and Hartford Rotary Clubs Join Forces to Bring a  
Prescription Drug Drop Box to Hartford  
12-30-14**

On January 1, 2015, the Prescription Drug Drop Box Program will officially become a reality in the City of Hartford. The Hartford Lions Club had approached the Hartford Police Department and expressed their interest in funding the purchase of a Prescription Drug Drop Box for the police department's lobby. These boxes generally cost about \$800.

The Prescription Drug Drop Box Program would provide a safe option for the disposal of unused or expired prescription medications, and it would reduce the availability of those medications for potential diversion, theft, or abuse. By way of reference, in November the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) reported they have collected a total of **2,411 TONS** of prescription drugs through their National Drug Take-Back Program over the last four years alone. As a participant in previous *Clean Sweep* Programs, the Hartford Police Department is well aware of the need for these types of services here in Hartford and the potential benefits for our community.

Unfortunately, in order to implement a Prescription Drug Drop Program, there is a substantial cost involved for the destruction of the medications that are collected. In Wisconsin, the closest approved destruction facility is in the State of Illinois. That is where the Hartford Rotary Club joined the cause. The Rotary Club came forward with a \$500 donation to apply to the cost of the destruction of the drugs.

Hartford Police Chief David Groves presented Hartford Lion's Club President Bruce Pollock and Hartford Rotarian Penny Jo Zagel with plaques in appreciation for the combined generosity of their organizations on behalf of the Hartford Police Department.

The Prescription Drug Drop Box is located inside the Hartford Police Department lobby, located at 109 N. Main St. The items that are, and are not, accepted in the drug drop box program are posted on an informational sign on the top of the drop box.

The Hartford Police Department's lobby is open 24-hours a day, seven days a week, and 365 days a year for anyone wanting to drop off their prescription medications for destruction. To ensure security, the drug drop box has been securely mounted to the lobby floor and is monitored around the clock by security cameras and the staff of the Emergency Communications Center.



Pictured L-R: Hartford Lions President Bruce Pollock, Hartford Lion Ralph Kuepper, Hartford Rotarian Penny Jo Zagel, and Hartford Rotary President Chief David Groves

# **Acceptable items**

(This is not a complete list)

**Prescription drugs**  
**Prescription patches**  
**Prescription medications**  
**Pet medication**  
**Over-the-counter medications**  
**Vitamins**

# **Unacceptable items**

(This is not a complete list)

**Aerosol cans**  
**Inhalers**  
**Bio-hazard or infectious waste**  
**Hydrogen peroxide or alcohol**  
**Thermometers**  
**Food items**  
**Medications from businesses or clinics**  
**Thermometers**  
**Ointments, lotions or liquids**  
**Needles (Sharps)**