



Pictured (L-R): Deputy Chief Semerjian, DA Morrissey and Chief Williams

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Chief Williams & DA Morrissey: “We will dispose of your un-used prescription drugs”.

If you have prescription drugs in your medicine cabinet that you no longer need, the Franklin Police Department has a new drug take-back container – and you are invited to use it.

DA Morrissey and Franklin Police Chief Stephen T. Williams agree that getting un-used prescription drugs out of residents’ medicine cabinets is an important tool in keeping them out of circulation – and thereby preventing addictions and the crime and misery that often accompany them.

Police refer to them as “diverted drugs,” and they are a significant problem, according to Chief Williams. “The concern should extend beyond your own children,” Chief Williams said. “If they ever have visitors, when those friends close the door to the restroom behind themselves, they are alone with whatever OxyContin, Percocet or other drugs are in the cabinet.”

Parents of teens often monitor liquor in their home, but Williams and Morrissey said that few parents keep track of how many unused pills are in the house. “That is proving to be a mistake for many good families,” Morrissey said.

Morrissey negotiated an arrangement with Bay State Community Services’ Impact Quincy program that provided a two-thirds subsidy for police to acquire the \$900 containers. Morrissey awarded Franklin a \$300 grant from the DA’s office, drawn from drug profits forfeited in narcotics prosecutions, and a \$300 grant from anti-drug funds that Impact Quincy had through the Department of Public Health.

With the Food and Drug Administration recommending against flushing unused medicine down the toilet or disposing of it in household trash, for environmental and other reasons, these containers provide a safe method, Morrissey and Williams said.

“It is in the lobby of the police station and ready for use,” Chief Williams said to residents of his town, adding that “a few minutes of your time today could save someone else a lifetime of consequences.”