



City of Somerville, Massachusetts

JOSEPH A. CURTATONE
MAYOR



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 21, 2010

SOMERVILLE INTRODUCES MEDICATION DROP-OFF AT SPD

24-Hour Drop Off Kiosk to be Rolled Out in Collaboration with DEA's Initiative on Saturday; Kiosk Located in Lobby of Somerville Public Safety Building

SOMERVILLE – Mayor Joseph A. Curtatone, Health Department Director Paulette Renault-Caragianes and Acting Chief of Police Michael Cabral announced today that, in collaboration with the efforts of the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the “National Prescription Drug Take-Back” program, the City of Somerville will unveil a new, 24-hour drop-off for all unwanted medications. The kiosk will be located in the lobby of the Public Safety Building, 220 Washington Street, and open to all community members 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Designated parking spaces will be made available for those wishing to drop off unwanted medications.

“This is another important step in ensuring that the Somerville community is safe and welcoming for all residents, both inside the home and in the community at large,” Mayor Curtatone said. “The health and safety of our families, particularly young children, is of the utmost importance, and providing a safe place for disposal of unwanted and unneeded medications reaffirms our commitment to sustaining a healthy community.”

Unwanted medications, with the exception of liquids, may be disposed of at the kiosk after all personal information and identification has been removed from bottles and containers. Residents are also asked to place all containers within a zip lock bag prior to drop off.

“The simple and single action of removing unwanted medication from homes provides multiple ongoing benefit of preventing improper and often dangerous consequences of the misuse of medication,” said Renault-Caragianes.

“The Somerville Police Department remains committed to the safety and wellness of the entire community, and we are glad to be able to offer another proactive service for residents of the City to make sure Somerville remains a safe place to live, work and play,” said Acting Chief Cabral.

For more information on the medication drop off kiosk, please call 311.

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