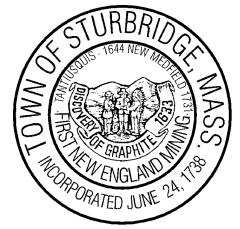




**TOWN OF STURBRIDGE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
*Office of the Chief of Police*  
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### **Media Advisory**

**For Immediate Release  
June 30, 2015**

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### **CVS/pharmacy and The Partnership For Drug-Free Kids Help Sturbridge Combat Drug Abuse and Work Toward Safer Disposal of Unused Medication**

The Sturbridge Police Department announces today that it has been awarded a grant from CVS/pharmacy to install a Drug Collection Unit. The new Unit will be located in the lobby of the Sturbridge Public Safety Complex, beginning July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015, and will provide residents with a safe and environmentally responsible way to dispose of unwanted, unused or expired medication, including controlled substances.

The new Unit is intended to reduce the amount of unneeded medicine in residents' homes and decrease prescription drug abuse, which has soared in recent years, especially among teenagers. More than 70 percent of teenagers say it is easy to get prescription drugs from their parents' medicine cabinets, according to a 2014 Partnership for Drug-Free Kids study.

The new Unit will also help Sturbridge prevent the contamination of local landfills and water supplies from unused medication.

"Safely disposing of unused medication is critical to protecting our children and our environment," said Sturbridge Police Chief Thomas J. Ford III. "The Sturbridge Police Department is proud to partner with CVS/pharmacy and we thank them for their commitment to help residents reduce the amount of unneeded medicine in our community."

Sturbridge's new Drug Collection Unit site will be open to the public 24/7 and drugs can be dropped off with no questions asked. Sturbridge residents and CVS/pharmacy customers can also inquire about the Medication Disposal for Safer Communities Program at the toll free phone number 1-866-559-8830 or visit [www.cvs.com/safercommunities](http://www.cvs.com/safercommunities).

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*The Mission of the Sturbridge Police Department is to work in partnership with the Community to protect life and property, solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our town.*