



TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

PRESS RELEASE

September 30th, 2014
Community Resource Officer Kevin Albert
(480) 948-7418

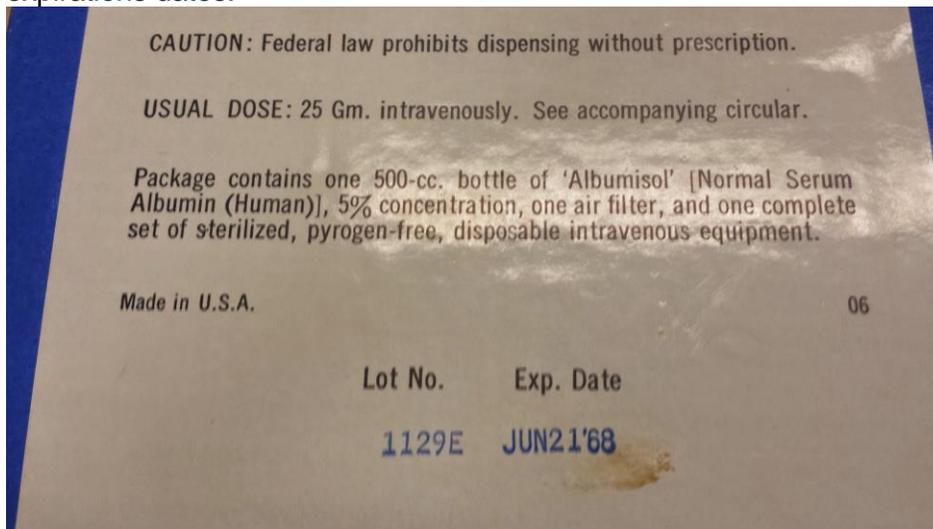
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

DEA's National Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative a HUGE success!

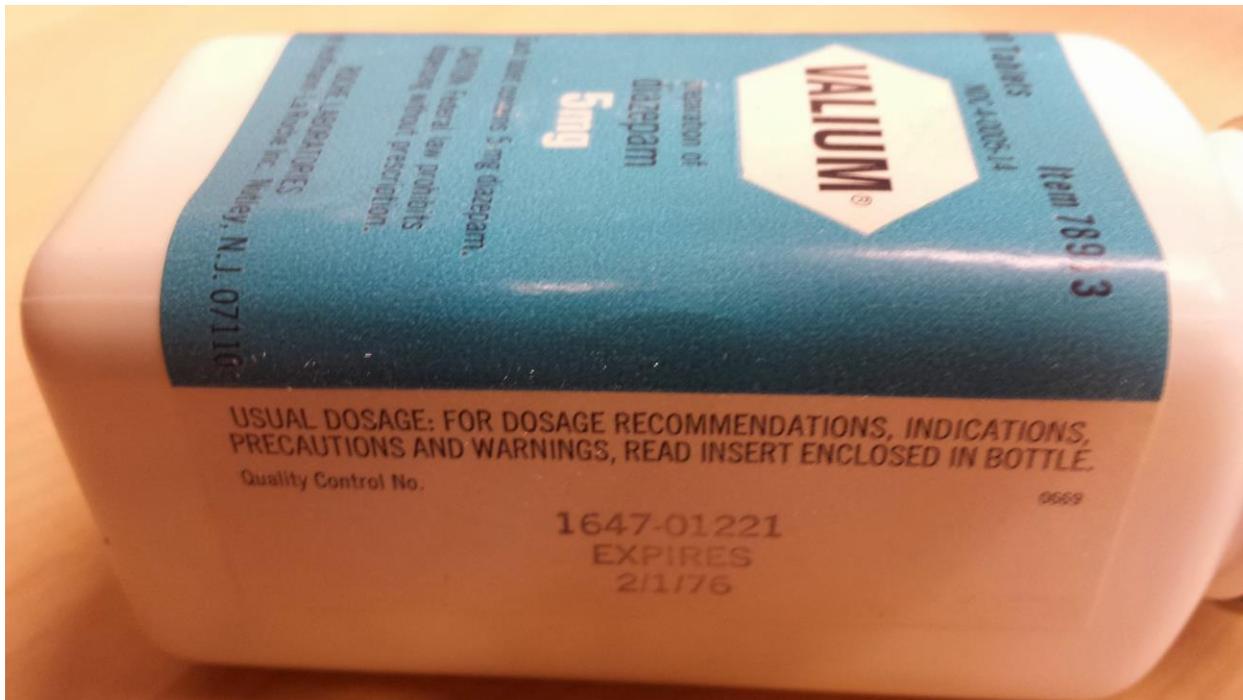
The Drug Enforcement Administration's national program was a huge success here in small Paradise Valley!

Held twice a year, the program promotes the safe disposal of unused or expired medications at pre-determined locations. The Paradise Valley Police Department launched its disposal box in February 2014 and decided to participate in this amazing program. This past Saturday, between 10am and 2pm, the police department's collection box accumulated over **442 pounds** of medications! There was a constant trickle of people coming to the department during the entire 4 hours making it one of the most successful drug take-back events ever held here at the police department.

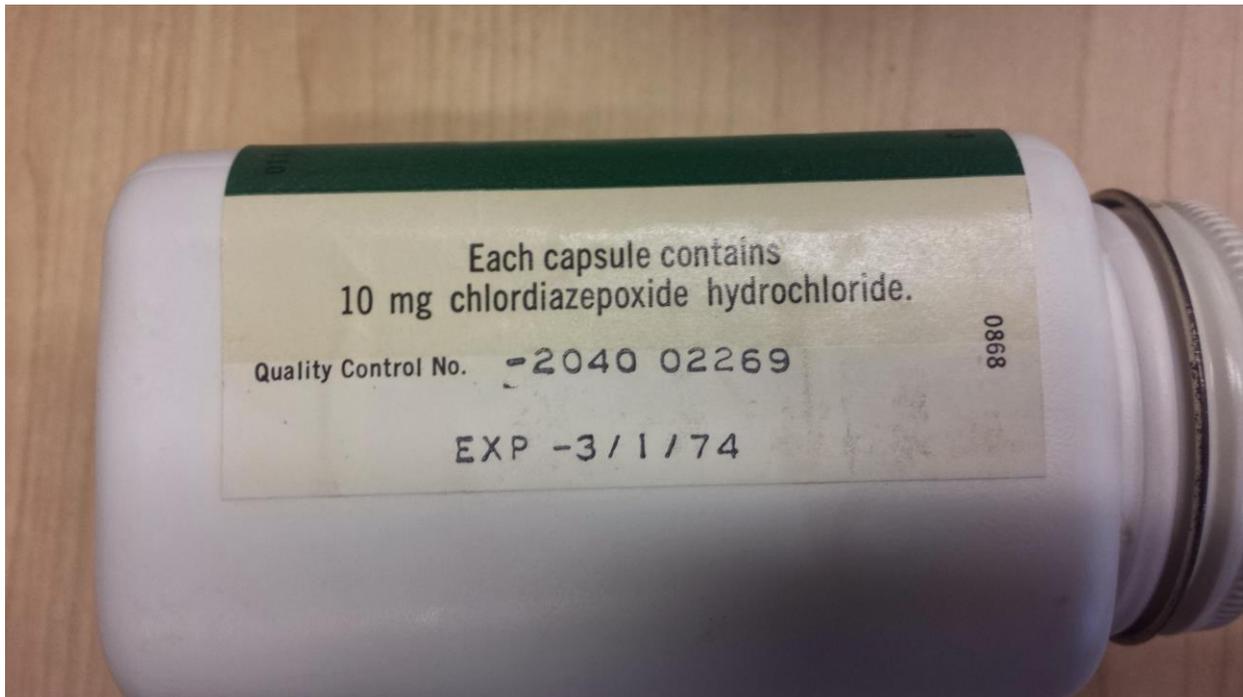
Our first national event was held this past April and we thought it was a success with 172 pounds, amazing what folks keep with them for such a long period of time! See some of the expirations dates:



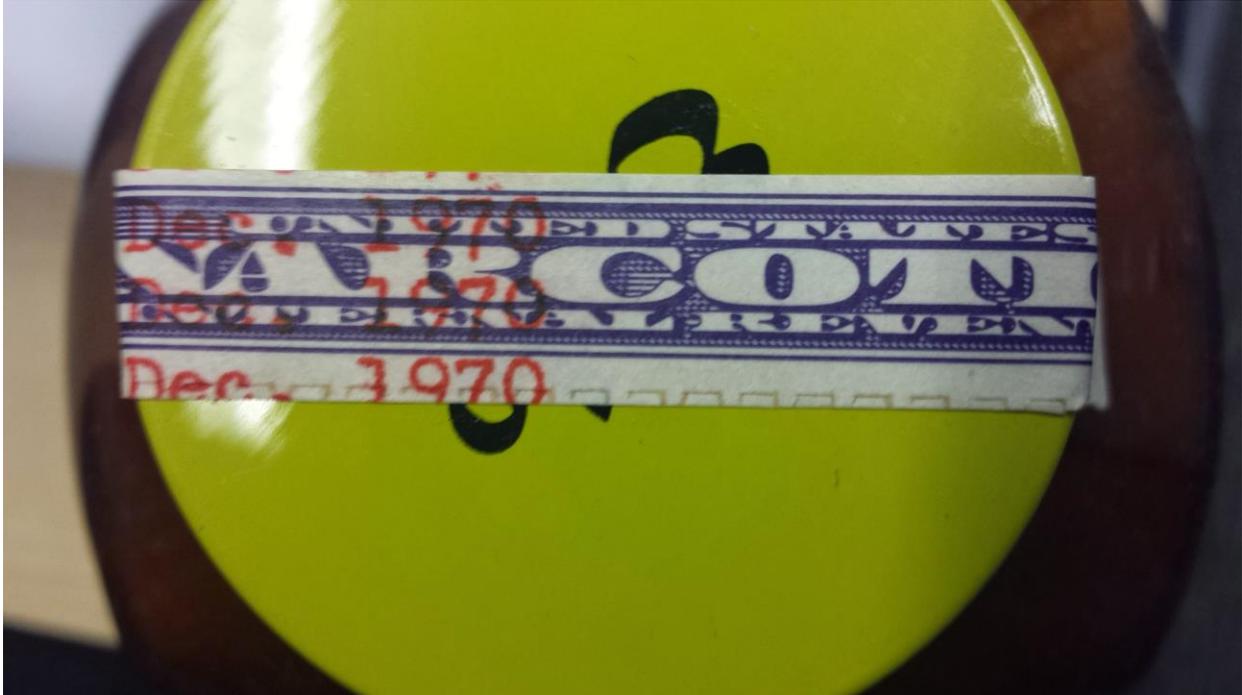
Expired June 21st, 1968



Expired February 1st, 1976



Expired March 1st, 1974



Although the DEA program is held twice per year, the Paradise Valley Police Department's drug collection box is open 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Below is the original press release:

February 6th, 2014

Citizens looking to dispose of excess and expired prescription and over-the-counter medications can now visit the safe and secure permanent drop off location at the Paradise Valley Police Department, located at 6433 E. Lincoln Dr., Paradise Valley, AZ 85253.

The Paradise Valley Police Department has recognized the need for such a program and has established a permanent prescription drug collection program in order to reduce the supply of drugs that can potentially harm teens and adults.

According to the 2011 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), more than six million Americans abuse prescription drugs. Among youth who are 12 to 17 years old, 7.4 percent report non-medical use of prescription drugs in the past year.

Properly disposing of excess drugs is everyone's responsibility as a matter of public safety. More than 70 percent of young people who are abusing prescription pain medication actually get them from friends or family, this statistic also includes raiding the family medicine cabinet. Now Paradise Valley residents won't have to wait for a specific take-back day to clean out their medicine cabinets.

The program will be presented to the Town Council on February 13th, 2014, and the collection container will then be open to the public on Tuesday, February 18th in the police department lobby. Anybody can drop off prescriptions drugs in the container at any time day or night, no questions asked.

The Paradise Valley Police Department is committed to providing a safe, secure and environmentally friendly way to collect unwanted or expired household medication; including prescriptions, over-the-counter drugs and unused pharmaceuticals.

Contact: Community Resource Officer Kevin Albert
Organization Name: Paradise Valley Police Department
Telephone Number: (480) 348-3597
Email Address: KAlbert@ParadiseValleyAZ.gov
Website address: www.ParadiseValleyPD.com