

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day Initiative

Got Drugs?

Turn in your unused or expired
medication for safe disposal
Saturday, September 27th,
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

[Click here for a collection site near you.](#)



Virginia will participate, **Saturday, September 27, 2014** in the **ninth National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day**. Sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration, this collaborative effort between state and local law enforcement agencies provides residents with an opportunity to dispose of potentially dangerous controlled substances from their medicine cabinets in an environmentally safe manner. Collection activities will take place from **10:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m.** at sites designated by law enforcement throughout Virginia. To find a collection site nearby or for more information, click on the following link: http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/. Please note that this service is free and anonymous; no questions asked.

During the last National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on April 26, 2014, citizens turned in 780,158 pounds (390 tons) of expired and unwanted prescription medications for safe and proper disposal at 6,072 locations operated by DEA and state and local law enforcement. This was the largest nationwide collection of medications in eight Take Back Days. When the results of the eight events to date are combined, more than 4.1 million pounds (2,123 tons) of prescription medications have been removed from circulation. Virginia, specifically, collected 22,855 pounds of prescription drugs at over 200 collection sites across the state.

For more information about this initiative and to determine the closest collection site to your location please go to:

National Take Back Initiative Collection Site Search:

http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/

Prescription drug abuse is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States. DEA characterizes this initiative as a vital public safety and public health issue. Prescription drugs that languish in home medicine cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse and abuse. According to the 2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health released in 2013, the non-medical use of controlled substance medications is at an all-time high, with 6.8 million Americans reporting having abused prescription drugs in 2012. That same study revealed more than 54 percent of people who abuse prescription pain relievers got them through friends or relatives, a statistic that includes raiding the family medicine cabinet. Therefore, it is important for prescription drugs to be disposed of properly to help reduce the risk of prescription drug diversion and abuse.



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