



**MEDIA ADVISORY:**

***DEA & Take Back Your Meds Promotes Safe Medicine Return at Fisherman's Terminal***  
DEA National Drug Take Back Day Sat. April 30<sup>th</sup>

SEATTLE – To support National Drug Take Back Day, the Take Back Your Meds coalition is encouraging Seattle residents to drop off unwanted or expired medicines at Fisherman's Terminal on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. The site will be open to the public from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sponsored by the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) with the Port of Seattle Police Department; the one-day event provides communities with access to safe medicine return locations in an effort to reduce the increasing rates of accidental poisonings and prescription drug abuse while protecting the environment.

**PRESS INTERVIEWS AND PHOTO-OPS: 12:00 PM**

**What: National Drug Take Back Day in Seattle at Fisherman's Terminal**

**When:** Saturday, April 30; 12 – 1:30 p.m.

**Where:** Fisherman's Terminal; 3919 18th Avenue West; Seattle, WA, 98119

**Spokespeople:**

- John Gahagan (SAMA Foundation) shares his personal story - his son died of a drug overdose - and explains how safe medicine return can reduce drug addiction and accidental overdoses.
- Senator Adam Kline talks about the need for legislation to create an on-going, sustainable, statewide medicine return program.
- Margaret Shield, spokesperson for the Take Back Your Meds coalition and the Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County, discusses the environmental and health risks caused by unused medicines.

**Visuals:**

- People dropping off unused medicine.
- Mr. Pill mascot, urging people to protect their families and get old meds out of the home.
- Bert the Salmon, supporting take back programs to help protect the environment.

**Additional Information:** National Drug Take Back Day highlights the critical need in Washington for an ongoing and sustainable, state drug disposal program. Poisonings are the leading cause of accidental deaths, surpassing car crashes in Washington. Take Back Your Meds is comprised of local law enforcement agencies, health organizations, drugstores, local governments, environmental groups and community organizations. The coalition supports a statewide medicine take-back program financed and run by pharmaceutical manufacturers.

For more local sites for National Drug Take Back Day, visit: [www.takebackyourmeds.org/dea-events](http://www.takebackyourmeds.org/dea-events). For more on Take Back Your Meds, go to: [www.takebackyourmeds.org](http://www.takebackyourmeds.org)