



DEA National Pharmaceuticals Take-Back Day

Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011 10 a.m.– 2 p.m.



Safely dispose of unused medications

The National Pharmaceuticals Take-Back Day is sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and supported by local law enforcement. Help protect your family and the environment.

To find a participating location:

- visit TakeBackYourMeds.org/dea-events
- call 1-888-869-4233.



Why take back my meds?

- Unused medicines are a danger to our children, families and the environment.
- Washington State has one of the highest teen prescription drug abuse rates in the nation.
- Medicine poisoning of children and seniors is skyrocketing.
- Medicines flushed or put in the trash can end up in our surface waters, groundwater and drinking water—exposing our families and hurting our environment.

Law enforcement, federal agencies, public health and environmental professionals agree—take-back programs are the safest way to dispose of unused medicines.

What do I do if I miss the event?

Visit TakeBackYourMeds.org to find a temporary medicine take-back location. Store your medicines in a locked drawer, cabinet or medicine lock box.

Is there a permanent drug take-back program in Washington?

Unfortunately, no. Some communities, pharmacies and law enforcement agencies are paying for take-back programs but their funding is not sustainable. The October 29 event is only one day and DEA's support is short-term. This doesn't solve the ongoing need across the state. Washington needs secure take-back programs year-round to keep our families and our waters safe.

It's time for drug companies to step up and pay up.

Take Back Your Meds organizations support creation of a statewide take-back program. Drug manufacturers should provide take-back of leftover medicines as part of doing business, as they do in other countries. For a couple of pennies per prescription, drug companies could finance and provide a safe, ongoing medicine take-back system for our state.

Find out more and get involved!



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