

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative-April 27, 2019

Delaware – On Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Delaware State Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) have scheduled their 17th National Take-Back Initiative (NTBI). This is a great opportunity for those who missed the previous events, or who have subsequently accumulated unwanted, unused, and expired prescription drugs, to safely dispose of those medications. This is an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

In October, 2018, Americans turned in 457 tons (over 914,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at over 5,800 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,700 of its state and local law enforcement partners.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

The locations for planned disposal monitored by the Delaware

State Police will be at the following (The DEA cannot accept liquids, needles or sharps, only pills or patches):

New Castle County

- Delaware State Police Troop 2, 100 LaGrange Avenue, Newark, DE 19702

Kent County

- Delaware State Police Troop 3, 3759 South State Street, Camden, DE 19934

Sussex County

- Delaware State Police Troop 7, 18006 Coastal Highway, Lewes, DE 19958

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the April 27 Take Back Day event, go to the [DEA Diversion website](#).

DEA NATIONAL ^{Rx} **TAKEBACK**



If you don't properly
dispose of the unused
or expired prescription
drugs in your home, they
might find a new one.

Visit [DEATakeBack.com](https://www.deatakeback.com) for
a collection site near you.



Unused or expired prescription medications are a public safety issue, leading to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse.

Pharmaceutical drugs can be just as dangerous as street drugs when taken without a prescription or a doctor's supervision.

The non-medical use of prescription drugs ranks second only to marijuana as the most common form of drug abuse in America.

The majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs get them from family and friends—and the home medicine cabinet.

Unused prescription drugs thrown in the trash can be retrieved and abused or illegally sold. Unused drugs that are flushed contaminate the water supply. Proper disposal of unused drugs saves lives and protects the environment.

Take-back programs are the best way to dispose of old drugs. But if a program is not available:

- Take the meds out of their bottles;
- Mix them with something unappealing like used kitty litter or coffee grounds;
- Seal them in a bag or disposable container, and throw that away.

For more information on prescription drug abuse, go to:

- www.DEA.gov
- www.GetSmartAboutDrugs.com
- www.JustThinkTwice.com

*Presented by Public Information Officer, Master Corporal
Melissa Jaffe*

Released: 042419 1330

-End-