



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

# NEWS RELEASE

Office of Communications  
Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 25, 2012

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## Prescription drug take-back day coming up Saturday, April 28

DENVER—The Drug Enforcement Administration will hold its fourth National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day on Saturday, April 28, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Participating police and sheriff's departments across Colorado will collect and safely dispose of unused, unwanted and expired household medications.

The take-back service is free and anonymous, with no questions asked. To find take-back locations in your area, visit the [DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day](#) Web page and click on "Collection Site Locator," or call CO HELP at 1-877-462-2911.

Authorized DEA take-back sites are coordinated with local law enforcement agencies so that prescription narcotics and other controlled substances **will** be accepted for disposal along with other prescription and over-the-counter drugs. The following items **will not** be accepted: needles and sharps, mercury (thermometers), oxygen containers, chemotherapy/ radioactive substances, pressurized canisters and illicit drugs.

More than 498 tons of medications were turned in at collection sites across the United States during the first three DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back Days, including 18 tons collected in Colorado. These drugs have been removed from homes and no longer pose a danger of abuse. Seventy percent of children who abuse prescription drugs get them from family and friends. Home medicine cabinets often provide easy access to the drugs they abuse/use.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment encourages you to securely store medications in the home, just as you would other valuables. Keep track of the drugs you have on hand and dispose of expired or no longer needed medications. For disposal, seek out collection events, such as the DEA take-back day on April 28, or other local programs. The department operates the Colorado Medication Take-Back Pilot Project, with 10 Denver Metro area locations and two Summit County

locations. Visit [www.coloradomedtakeback.info](http://www.coloradomedtakeback.info) or call 303-692-2903 for more information about the pilot project and additional disposal guidance. Please note that the Colorado Medication Take-Back Pilot Project does not accept prescription narcotics or other controlled substances.

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