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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, OCTOBER 16, 2020

# NEWS RELEASE

## Drop Off Unused Medications During Drug Take Back Day Oct. 24

**Durango, CO:** Do you have unused or expired medications? The Durango Police Department will accept prescription and over-the-counter medications during Drug Take Back Day on Saturday, October 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Police Substation, 545 Wilson Gulch Drive near Three Springs. Individuals dropping off medications will remain in their vehicles and hand medications to Durango Police Department employees. Individuals are asked to wear face masks when pulling up to hand off their medications.

Drug Take Back programs, held in cooperation with the [U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration](https://www.dea.gov), are the safest way to dispose of medications. Unused prescription drugs discarded in household trash cans are easily retrieved and abused, and drugs flushed down the toilet contaminate area water supplies and the environment.

Pharmaceutical drugs can be just as dangerous as illicit street drugs. Unused or expired medications can result in accidental poisoning, overdose and abuse. Pets and young children are susceptible to poisoning if they ingest medications. Non-medical use of prescription drugs is the second most common form of drug abuse in the U.S. and the most common form of drug abuse among teens, who often obtain medications from medicine cabinets or friends. For more information about prescription drug abuse, visit [getsmartaboutdrugs.gov](https://www.getsmartaboutdrugs.gov) or [justthinktwice.gov](https://www.justthinktwice.gov)

Only pills and patches will be accepted during Drug Take Back Day. The following items will not be accepted: Liquid medications, asthma inhalers, syringes, mercury thermometers, iodine-containing medications, cancer-specific medications, marijuana and marijuana-containing products, and illicit drugs and substances. Needles and sharps also will not be accepted but can be disposed of in a receptacle located in the Police Department lobby, 990 E. 2nd Avenue, throughout the year.

For more information about Drug Take Back Day or to find additional collection sites, visit [DEATakeBack.com](https://www.DEATakeBack.com) or call 800-882-9539.