

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

Overview

The National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of prescription medications.

The DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) authorizes local and county law enforcement agencies that wish to host a collection site for the public to dispose of unwanted pharmaceuticals. This service is provided twice a year in the spring and fall. This is a perfect opportunity for ATC centers to partner and volunteer to assist in these events. The next date is **October 24, 2022**. Please call the police or sheriff in your area 45 days in advance. For more info: https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/

Background

According to the 2019 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 9.7 million people misused prescription pain relievers, 4.9 million people misused prescription stimulants, and 5.9 million people misused prescription tranquilizers or sedatives in 2019. The survey also showed that a majority of misused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet.

Setup & Prep

- Contact local Police / Sheriff's office for the designated location for the event
- Arrive at 9:00 at location to setup tables and start making balloons
- Projected time of activity: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- Breakdown & cleanup: 2:00 -3:00 pm
- Contact local TV stations to cover the event

Volunteers Needed (Minimum of 6-10)

- 2 Door Greeters - hand out balloons and literature
- 2 Balloon Makers - one to fill helium and one to tie the string
- 2-4 Take-Back Table Assistants
- 2 Designated Volunteers to setup and tear down

Supplies Needed

- 2 Six Ft Folding Tables (TC tablecloths if available)
- Project Reach Witness Cards (provided)
- TC Info Brochures, Posters
- 100 Balloons (for kids) <https://24hourwristbands.com/shop/products/custom-11-latex-balloons>
- Helium tank
- Ribbon / String for Balloons

Project Material Cost

Approx. \$200 needed for balloons, helium, easel posters, water...

Other

- Balloons, brochures, witness cards should be handed to every person leaving the store... or dropping off drugs
- Contact Newspapers and Radio Stations for PSA announcement(s) of the event date

Post Event Press Release

For Immediate Release:

NATIONAL DRUG TAKE BACK DAY NETS 000 POUNDS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS IN CITY, STATE

Adult & Teen Challenge (CITY), along with the (Name County Sherriff's Office), partnered with the DEA / Drug Enforcement Administration on October 24, 2022 for the fall **National Prescription Drug Take Back Day**. The event was held at (Location) from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. A total of (000) pounds of pills were collected at a street value of (\$0.0 million) dollars.

Adult & Teen Challenge (CITY) had (00) volunteers assist the law enforcement department and provided literature and information about drug prevention and recovery programs to support the community. The purpose for this event is to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible way of disposing of out of date prescription drugs and educating the community about the dangers and hazards of expired prescription medications. Unused prescription drugs are a public safety issue to the environment and may cause accidental poisoning.

For more information regarding drug and alcohol addiction programs contact:
Adult & Teen Challenge (CITY) at email.address@name.org or call 800-000-0000.

(see photos on next page)



Promotional Event Material: Remember to take photos for social media and press releases for the local newspapers and magazines. T-Shirts, Balloons, Posters, Flyers, and Table Skirts make a visual impact when an event theme color is utilized.