

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is Coming Up on October 25**

**SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO** – On Saturday, October 25, South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) is partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and community partners all over the health district to host a local Drug Take Back Day collection event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the following locations:

- **Twin Falls: Fred Meyer Parking Lot (705 Blue Lakes Blvd N)**

*Community Partners: Treatment and Recovery Center (TARC) and the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office*

- **Kimberly: Kimberly-Hansen Police Department (242 Highway 30)**

*Community Partners: Kimberly-Hansen Police Department*

- **Gooding: The Walker Center (605 11th Ave E)**

*Community Partners: The Walker Center and the Gooding County Sheriff's Office*

- **Heyburn: Heyburn Police Department (1800 J St)**

*Community Partners: The Heyburn Police Department*

- **Hailey: Albertsons (911 N Main St)**

*Community Partners: Hailey Police Department, Men's Second Chance Living, and the Crisis Hotline*

In 2023, over 2.5 million controlled substance prescriptions were dispensed in Idaho alone. When left in a medicine cabinet, thrown away or flushed, unused prescriptions can be dangerous to people, animals, or the environment. In the same year, deadly overdoses in Idaho hit a state record of 386 lives lost. Drug disposal is one of the most effective ways to prevent potential prescription misuse and/or overdose.

"Proper disposal of unused medications is crucial in reducing the risks of prescription drug misuse and accidental poisoning," said Taylor Bybee, SCPHD Senior Health Education Specialist.

“Many people don't realize that keeping expired or unused medications in the home can lead to dangerous situations. By participating in Drug Take Back Day, we can help protect our families, pets, and the environment from the harmful effects of unused prescriptions,” said Cody Orchard, SCPHD Senior Health Education Specialist.

All prescription drugs will be accepted, as well as over-the-counter medications, vitamins, and veterinary medications. Take Back drop-off locations will also accept vape pens, cartridges, or other e-cigarette devices (without the batteries in the device). **Needles will not be accepted.**

**Help keep our community safe and healthy by dropping off your old medication on  
Saturday, October 25.**

If you miss your local Take Back Day and need to dispose of prescription medications, find year-round drop off locations online at: [odp.idaho.gov/prescription-drug-take-back-program](https://odp.idaho.gov/prescription-drug-take-back-program)

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