



The Maryland State Medical Society

News: For Immediate Release

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DEA NATIONAL PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE BACK DAY – October 26

BALTIMORE, October 22, 2024 — MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is supporting The Drug Enforcement Administration’s (DEA) nationwide prescription drug take-back day on Saturday, October 26, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more than a decade, this event has helped Americans easily rid their homes of unneeded medications—those that are old, unwanted, or expired—that too often become a gateway to addiction.

Take Back Day offers free and anonymous disposal of unneeded medications at close to 5,000 local drop-off locations nationwide. People can find a site near them by [clicking here](#) and searching by zip code. Please note that collection sites will not accept syringes, sharps, or illicit drugs. Liquid products, such as cough syrup, should remain sealed in their original container and the cap must be tightly sealed to prevent leakage.

The 26th Annual National Take Back Day was a huge success. Americans turned in 335 tons (670,136 pounds) of prescription drugs at 4,869 sites operated by the DEA and over 4,600 of its state and local law enforcement partners at the last Take-Back Day on April 27, 2024. Overall, all previous Take Back events have taken in over 18.5 million pounds—about 9,285 tons—of pills and other materials. Maryland alone has collected 253,792 pounds since the first Take Back Day event.

Gene Ransom, MedChi CEO, states “as we continue to face the relentless opioid crisis and the extraordinary challenges it brings to families and communities, the upcoming DEA Take-Back Day offers a powerful opportunity for Americans and Marylanders to take action and make a real difference.”

For more information about the disposal of prescription medications or about the April 24 Take Back Day event, go to <https://takebackday.dea.gov/>.

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. Formed in 1799, it is still the largest physician organization in Maryland today. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.