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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Brianna Bodily, Public Information Officer, bbodily@phd5.id.gov

Empty your medicine cabinet!

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day offers safe places to dispose of unused and old medication.

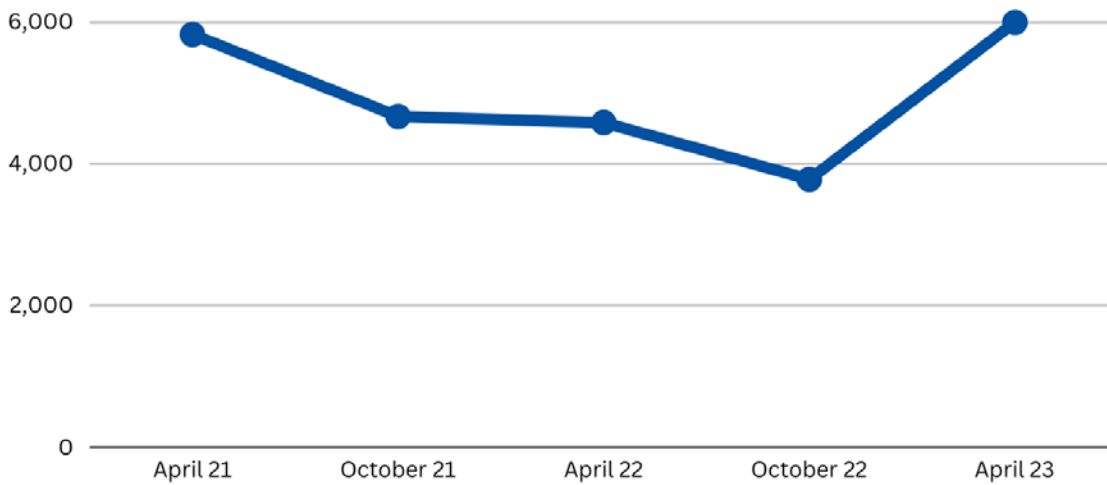
South Central Idaho – On October 28th, South Central Public Health District (SCPHD) is partnering with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Twin Falls County Sheriff's office, Twin Falls County Treatment and Recovery Clinic (TARC), Gooding Sheriff's office, Walker Center, the Community Coalitions of Idaho, the Heyburn Police Department, the Jerome County Sheriff's office, Men's Second Chance Living, and the Ketchum Police Department to host a local Take Back Day collection event from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the following locations:

- Twin Falls at the Fred Meyer parking lot (705 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.)
- Gooding at Walker Center (605 11th E)
- Heyburn at the Police Department (1800 J Street)
- Jerome at the Walmart parking lot (2680 S. Lincoln Ave.)
- Ketchum at the Valley Apothecary (201 N. Washington Ave.)

In 2021, the National Survey on Drug Use and Health found more than 40 thousand Idahoans, ages 12 and older, reported misusing prescription drugs in the last year. When left in a medicine cabinet, thrown away or flushed, unused prescriptions can be dangerous to people, animals, or the environment. **Help keep our community safe and healthy by dropping off your old medication on Saturday, October 28th.**

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

At Drug Take Back events in April, Americans turned in more than 660,000 pounds of prescription drugs at sites across the United States. In Idaho, residents turned in about 6,000 pounds, more than any single collection day since 2020.



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

Resources:

National Survey on Drug Use and Health:

https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/reports/rpt39467/2021NSDUHsaeSpecificStatesTabs122022_0/NSDUHsaeIdaho2021.pdf

Data for graph from the Idaho Office of Drug Policy: <https://odp.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/2017-2023-Idaho-Trends-National-Prescription-Drug-Take-Back-Day.-Final.pdf>