

FACT SHEET 3rd National Prescription Drug Take Back, October 29, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 2 p.m.

<p>Why is it important to safely dispose of unused and expired medication?</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Public Health & Safety - Prevention – Environmental Impact</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young kids swallow things – including other people’s medications. A study finds kids have the highest rate of emergency department visits for unintentional poisonings due to drugs, including prescription medications. <i>According to the Center for Disease Control</i> • More than 27,600 deaths from unintentional drug poisoning occurred in the United States in 2007. <i>According to the Center for Disease Control</i> • More than 7 million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs <i>2009 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration’s National Survey on Drug Use and Health</i> • Each day, about, 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time <i>According to the Partnership for a Drug Free America.</i> • Since 2005, Alaska has had a 7-fold increase in prescription drug abuse <i>According to the Alaska Bureau of Alcohol and Drug Enforcement</i> • Often Seniors are targets of theft or other crimes by drug seekers for their medications • Studies show a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including the home medicine cabinet. • Flushing medications down the drain may harm the environment. Proper disposal of medication can help keep the environment safe and healthy.
<p>What You Can Do</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. MONITOR your medications regularly and be sure they are not being pilfered. Consult with your pharmacists if you have questions about medication interactions or dosages. 2. SECURE your medication to keep them out of the hands of drug seekers and young children. 3. SAFELY DISPOSE of your unused or expired medications at safe disposal events.
<p>Collection Sites</p>	<p>Safely dispose of your unused or expired drugs at any of the 31 Collection Sites in Alaska for details go to www.dea.gov or call Alaska 2-1-1 during the week 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday</p>
<p>Alaskan Partners</p>	<p>Akeela, Inc., Alaska 2-1-1, Alaska National Guard Counter Drug Support Program, Alaska Pharmacists Association, Alaska State Troopers, Anchorage Police Department, Anchorage Water and Wastewater Utility, community volunteers throughout Alaska, Cross Roads Clinic, Drug Enforcement Administration, Fairbanks Memorial Hospital & Denali Center, Fred Meyer, Hoonah Department of Public Safety, Joint Base Elmendorf Richardson, Matanuska Susitna Borough Office of Administration, Marlow Manor, Municipality of Anchorage – Community Recycling Programs and Department of Health and Human Services, Red Ribbon Coalition, Skagway Police Department, Soldotna Professional Pharmacy, Seward Police Department, United Way of Anchorage, United Way of Tanana Valley, Wasilla Police Department, Valdez Police Department, Veterans Administration – Anchorage Medical Center</p>
<p>Collected in last 2 Rx Take Back Days</p>	<p>Nationwide: more than 309 tons of pills Alaska Statewide: almost 3,000 pounds (2,939.6 pounds)</p>
<p>Legislation</p>	<p><i>Safe and Secure Drug Disposal Act of 2010</i> signed on October 12 – The DEA is currently working on a process for people to safely dispose of their prescription drugs. Until that process is complete, however, DEA will continue to hold Take Back Days every six months.</p>