

COUNTY OF ORANGE – HEALTH CARE AGENCY

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release:

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TAKING BACK UNWANTED PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ON APRIL 28th

(Santa Ana) - In an effort to help prevent pill abuse and theft, the Orange County Health Care Agency, local law enforcement agencies and community partners will collaborate with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to collect expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs on National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day – April 28. There are more than 25 collection sites in Orange County and the service is free and anonymous, no questions asked. To find a collection site in your community, visit the <u>DEA website</u>.

The October 2011 Take-Back event collected over 3,150 pounds of unwanted prescription medications at 22 sites throughout Orange County, and 188.5 tons at 5,327 sites nationwide. National rates of prescription drug abuse, accidental poisoning and overdoses are alarmingly high in the United States - More than seven million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs. The majority of abused prescription drugs are acquired from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet.

Collection sites are located in the following cities:

Aliso Viejo Laguna Niguel Anaheim Mission Viejo

Costa Mesa Orange
Cypress Placentia
Fountain Valley San Clemente

Fullerton San Juan Capistrano

Garden Grove Santa Ana Huntington Beach Seal Beach Irvine Tustin

La Habra Westminster

Laguna Beach

To learn more about drug abuse prevention efforts in Orange County visit http://ochealthinfo.com/adept

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