



ONTARIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

2500 South Archibald Avenue Ontario, Ca. 91764 (909) 395-2001



PRESS RELEASE

Brad Kaylor, Chief of Police

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 14, 2015

APPROVED: JH

INCIDENT: Taking Back Unwanted Prescription Drugs

CONTACT: Corporal Fred Alvarez

OCCURRENCE DATE: September 26, 2015, 10 AM to 2 PM (909) 376-9377 falvarez@ontariopolice.org

STATEMENT:

Ontario, CA – On September 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Ontario Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its tenth opportunity in five years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to the Ontario Police Department located at 2500 S. Archibald Avenue, Ontario or the Ontario Senior Center located at 225 East “B” Street, Ontario. (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last September, Americans turned in 309 tons (over 617,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at nearly 5,500 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,000 of its state and local law enforcement partners. When those results are combined with what was collected in its eight previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 4.8 million pounds—more than 2,400 tons—of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the September 26 Take Back Day event, go to the [DEA Office of Diversion Control site](#) at www.dea.gov or contact the Ontario Police Department at (909) 395-2001.