



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **South Dakota Encourages Participation in National Drug Take Back Day**

South Dakota residents are encouraged to participate in the National Drug Take Back Day on [insert date]. This initiative provides a safe, convenient and anonymous way to dispose of unwanted, unused and expired prescription drugs.

Prescription drugs that sit unused in homes create a risk for misuse, theft and accidental poisoning. A majority of people who misuse medications, like opioids, got their first dose from the homes of people who were prescribed the drug. This includes the medicine cabinets of parents, relatives or friends. Removing prescriptions from homes once they are no longer necessary is one part of the solution to this crisis and can prevent accidental exposure or intentional misuse.

National Drug Take Back Day helps to prevent these dangers by offering a secure disposal option for these medications. South Dakotans can visit participating locations, such as local pharmacies, to drop off their unwanted medications with no questions asked. To find a collection site near you, visit [AvoidOpioidSD.com](http://AvoidOpioidSD.com) or [dea.gov/takebackday](http://dea.gov/takebackday).

