



**Public Health**  
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Frederick County Health Department

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**MAY 1, 2018**

## **DRUG TAKE BACK DAY IS A HUGE SUCCESS**

**FREDERICK, MD** -- On Saturday, April 28, from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., Frederick County residents turned out to turn in their unused, unwanted or expired medications in an effort to prevent prescription drug abuse in our area. This effort is sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), which has collected over 9 million (4,500) tons of medications over the past 8 years. The participating law enforcement sites in Frederick County collected approximately 1,000 lbs. of medications. Together with the medications collected last October, the amount of medication collected during these two events was 2,047 pounds.

In conjunction with Drug Take Back Day at the former Trinity School Parking lot (6040 New Design Rd), the Frederick County Health Department Harm Reduction program provided the first separate and successful Syringe Disposal. Frederick County residents were able to drive through and conveniently dispose of over 3,100 syringes and needles. This partnership allowed residents the opportunity to safely dispose of their sharps and keep our officers safe in the collection of medications.

**--more--**

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Residents are encouraged to continue to take an active role in this drug prevention event to safely dispose unwanted and expired medications. If you missed the event and still have medications to dispose of, you can visit any one of the following locations throughout the year:

- Brunswick Police Dept., 20 E "A" St, Brunswick, MD, 21716. M-F 8am-4:30pm
- Middletown Municipal Center, 31 W Main St, Middletown, MD, 21769. M-F 8am-4pm
- Emmitsburg Community Center, 300 S Seton Ave, Emmitsburg, MD, 21727. M-F 8am-4:30pm
- Thurmont Police Dept., 800 E Main St, Thurmont, MD, 21788. M-F 8am-4pm
- Frederick County Law Enforcement Center, 110 Airport Dr East, Frederick, MD, 21701. 24 hours a day.

You can also dispose of your needles and syringes at the weekly collection site:

- Frederick Community Action Agency, 100 S Market St, Frederick, MD, 21701. Every Tuesday 2:30pm-4:30pm

Special thanks to the Frederick City Police and Maryland State Police for supplying officers and designating drop off sites, Whitesell's Pharmacy for planning, sponsoring and staffing the event, and the Frederick County Health Department's (Opioid Misuse, Syringe Service, and Kids Like Us) programs for managing and providing staff for the event.

For more information about: National Prescription Drug Take Back Day initiative, visit <https://takebackday.dea.gov>; the dangers of prescription medication misuse, monitoring, storing and disposing of medications, visit [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DrugTakeBack](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/DrugTakeBack) or contact the Frederick County Health Department at 301-600-1755; on the Syringe Service Program, visit <http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/540/Harm-Reduction-Services> or contact Jessica Ellis at 301-600-1755.

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