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Frederick County Health Department

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**NOVEMBER 5, 2021**

## **RESIDENTS TURN OUT TO TURN IN UNWANTED MEDS AND SHARPS**

**FREDERICK, MD --** On Saturday, October 23, the Frederick County Health Department partnered with the Maryland State Police and the Frederick Police Department to host the Drug Enforcement Agency's "National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day". Between 10AM and 2PM, 253 residents turned in a total of 454.6 pounds of unwanted medication and approximately 9,860 sharps between the two collection sites. According to Nate Smith, Opioid Misuse Prevention Program Coordinator, "The disposal event was a huge success as illustrated by the strong numbers of both syringes and prescription medicines collected during the 4-hour event. Furthermore, it was a great opportunity for outreach to the community. A huge thanks to our Frederick County residents who both participated, and offered warm words of appreciation to the staff of the health department, Maryland State Police and Frederick Police Department who worked the event. It was great to see our collaborative efforts be both effective and appreciated in equal measure."

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Barbara A. Brookmyer, M.D., M.P.H. ▪ Health Officer

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If you were unable to attend the “Drug Take Back Day” event and have medication you would like to dispose, health department drop box locations can be found at [health.frederickcountymd.gov/OMPP](http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/OMPP). Information on syringe disposal can also be found on the health department webpage. Additional medication drop box locations can be found at numerous pharmacies within the county. For a listing of all known drop box locations, please visit <https://frederickcountymd.gov/3958/Household-Hazardous-Wastes>.

For information about the dangers of prescription medicine misuse and for information about monitoring, storing and disposing of medicines and syringes, please visit [health.frederickcountymd.gov/OMPP](http://health.frederickcountymd.gov/OMPP) or contact the Frederick County Health Department at 301-600-1755.

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