



State of Utah

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NEWS RELEASE

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Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet: Drive-Up Drop-Off Unused Drugs at Spots throughout Utah

Salt Lake City, Utah – Utah families will have an opportunity to drop off their unused prescription and over-the-counter drugs at “Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet” community medication take-back events at seven locations throughout the state on April 24.

“The public has become very concerned about abuse and poisonings from unused prescriptions and over-the-counter drugs,” said Leah Ann Lamb, assistant director of the Division of Water Quality. “But they are also concerned about the impact to the environment from flushing medicines down the toilet or sink that is why our Earth Day focus is medication take-back,” she added.

Each event is sponsored by local law enforcement agencies that provide safe “Drive-Up Drop-Off” access in which officers take possession of the medications and have them incinerated.

“We are pleased to offer this service for our customers who often ask how to properly dispose of their medications. Once a prescription is issued, our pharmacists cannot take them back. The ‘Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet’ events provide a legal, safe method for medication disposal,” said Marsha Gilford, Vice President Public Affairs, Smith’s Food and Drug Stores.

The Department of Environmental Quality has teamed up with law enforcement agencies, the Utah Poison Control Center, Smith’s Food and Drug Stores, local health departments, drug abuse prevention and recycling coalitions, and water and sewer agencies to provide “Clean Out Your Medicine Cabinet” community collection events, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., April 24 at the following locations:

Salt Lake County Government Center: South Parking Lot, 2001 South State Street.

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Cottonwood Heights: Smith's Parking Lot, 3470 Bengal Blvd.
Heber City: Smith's Parking Lot, 550 N. Main St.
Herriman: Smith's Parking Lot, 5560 W. 1300 South
Midvale: Hillcrest High School, 7350 S. 900 East
Park City: Recycle Utah Parking Lot, 1951 Woodbine Way.
Price: Sutherlands Parking Lot, 406 Highway 55

For convenience and safety, folks never have to get out of their car at these collections. For more information on proper disposal, including information on DEQ grants to local law enforcement agencies to provide collection boxes. visit: <http://www.medicationsdisposal.utah.gov/>

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