



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Prescription Drug Take-Back Day Oct. 26

On Saturday, October 26 the public will have its 18th opportunity in nine years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your prescription and over-the-counter medications for safe disposal. The Highlands Ranch Metro District and Centennial Water & Sanitation District are partnering with the Douglas County Sheriff's Office (DCSO) and Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) to host the event in Highlands Ranch.

The Take-Back event will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at both the DCSO Highlands Ranch Substation, 9250 Zotos Dr., and King Soopers at 4000 Red Cedar.

Last fall, Americans turned in nearly 469 tons of prescription drugs. Overall, in its 17 previous Take Back events, the DEA and its partners have taken in more than 11.8 million pounds 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 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 – pose potential safety and health hazards.

The DEA's efforts bring national focus to the issue of pharmaceutical substance abuse, while providing a secure and environmentally-friendly outlet for disposal that will protect our water resources.

For more information visit dcsheriff.net or call the Metro District at 303-791-0430.

Founded in 1981 as the local government in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, the Metro District provides a variety of municipal services to this planned community of 98,000 people. Learn more about the Metro District at www.highlandsranch.org.

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