



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Prescription Drug Take Back Day Invites Communities to Safely Dispose of Unwanted and Expired Medications for Free

Stockton, CA (October 21, 2025) – On Saturday, October 25th, 2025, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., San Joaquin County Public Health Services and the San Joaquin County Opioid Safety Coalition will partner with local law enforcement and the U.S Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to provide drop-off locations for expired and unwanted medications. This event provides a safe, anonymous, and environmentally friendly alternative of disposal to prevent misuse.

Residents can stop by six (6) drop-off sites throughout the county, including:

- Lodi Police Department, 215 W Elm Street, **Lodi**, CA, 95240
- Youngs Payless Market, 18980 CA-88, **Lockeford**, CA, 95237
- Tracy Police Department, 1000 Civic Center Drive, **Tracy**, CA, 95376
- Code 3 Wear, 304 Lincoln Center, **Stockton**, CA, 95207
- Stockton Unified School Police Department, 640 N San Joaquin Street, **Stockton**, CA, 95202
- San Joaquin General Hospital, 500 W Hospital Rd. **French Camp**, CA, 95231

This service is free of charge and anonymous, no questions asked. Please note that sites cannot accept needles or sharps materials. Information on where these materials can be safely disposed will be provided at each drop-off site.

Additionally, the following should be considered:

- Pills may be brought in loose, in blister packs, or in their original prescription bottles.
- Liquid products, such as cough syrup, should remain sealed in their original container.
- Vaping devices and cartridges will be accepted, but they must have lithium batteries removed.
- Pet medications are also accepted.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the United States are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Data shows that most abused prescription drugs come from family and friends, particularly home medicine cabinets, so clearing out unused medicine is essential. Prescription medications often end up in the wrong hands, fueling an epidemic that kills more Americans than car accidents, according to the DEA.

This Drug Take Back Day is the 29th nationwide event since its origination back in 2010. This past Spring, around 620,000 pounds of unused or expired medications were collected across all national collection sites during the April 2025 Drug Take Back Day.

In addition to DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, there are more than 11,000 authorized collectors [available year-round](#).

For more information, visit San Joaquin County's Medication and Sharps Disposal Program's website (<http://bit.ly/3IYFXGr>) or the DEA's year-round collection site locator (bit.ly/3GyQw9W).

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October Take Back Day event, go to www.DEATakeBack.com.

For additional information about local overdose prevention resources, like where to get the opioid reversal drug Narcan, help for addiction, and medication and sharps disposal, visit the San Joaquin County Opioid Safety Coalition website at www.SJCOpoidSafety.org.

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