

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Pharmacy Owner
Pharmacy Name
Phone Number
Email address

<Pharmacy Name> Offers Drug Take-Back Program for Consumer Drug Disposal

City, State (Month Date, Year) — As part of American Pharmacists Month, <Pharmacy Name> is now offering a prescription drug take-back program to provide an accessible and convenient option for disposing unused medication, while helping educate patients about their health.

“Pharmacists are the health care professionals seen last by patients before medications are used, and we are also there for patients when medications go unused or expire,” said (pharmacy owner).

“Unused or expired medications pose risks to our families, communities, and the environment. We welcome all in the community to come and talk to our pharmacists about their prescription drugs and how to store, use, and dispose of them properly,” said (pharmacy owner).

<Pharmacy Owner> is a member of the National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA®), which in 2009 launched [DisposeMyMeds™](http://www.disposemymeds.org), a prescription drug disposal program for consumers administered by the NCPA Foundation. By visiting www.disposemymeds.org, consumers can locate a community pharmacy with a drug disposal program near them. To date, more than 1,600 pharmacies have collected more than 200,000 pounds of medications for proper disposal.

As members of the community, pharmacists are in a prime position to ensure safe and proper handling of medications, from dispensing to disposal. Patients of any pharmacy are invited to safely dispose of unused and expired medications at <Pharmacy Name> free of charge by bringing in these drugs in their original containers. Some restrictions may apply, such as controlled substances and sharps like needles.

“October is American Pharmacists Month and by offering patients this disposal program, we are encouraging them to talk to their pharmacists about their medication needs all year long,” added (pharmacy owner).

As medication experts, pharmacists can help patients get the most benefit from their medicine. When patients stop in to dispose of their unused medications, they can speak with their pharmacist about why they stopped the medication. Community pharmacists are the most accessible health care provider and play a

crucial role in improving adherence and serving as a key care contact as patients move through the health care system.

The National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA®) represents the interests of America's community pharmacists, including the owners of nearly 23,000 independent community pharmacies. Together they represent an \$88.8 billion health care marketplace, dispense nearly 40% of all retail prescriptions, and employ more than 300,000 individuals, including over 62,000 pharmacists. To learn more, go to www.ncpanet.org.

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