



# CITY OF DOVER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

POLICE DEPARTMENT



Anthony F. Colarusso, Jr.  
Chief of Police

Press Release

For Immediate Release-April 21, 2017

Contact: Vicki Hebert  
(603)516-3279

On Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Dover Police Department and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public another opportunity to prevent prescription drug and opioid abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Medications can be brought to the Dover Police Department at 46 Chestnut Street for disposal. The service is free, anonymous, and no questions will be asked.

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse 80% of people who use heroin abused painkillers first. 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.

Dover has participated in the take back initiative since the fall of 2010 hosting at least one event a year. During those events, Dover has collected over 2,000 pounds prescription drugs.

For a while now, Americans have been advised that their usual method for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet—poses a potential safety and health hazards. Unused drugs that are flushed contaminate the water supply.

If you are unable to attend a collection event during the national take back day visit the Food and Drug Administration website at [www.FDA.gov](http://www.FDA.gov) to learn about other recommended disposal methods.

For more information about the take back event, including take back locations in addition to the Dover Police Department, visit the DEA website at [www.DEA.gov](http://www.DEA.gov) . Anyone that wants to learn more about how they can get involved in the police department's prevention efforts can contact the Dover Coalition for Youth at (603)516-3279 or online at [www.DoverCoalition.org](http://www.DoverCoalition.org).