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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 22, 2021 Contact: Mimi Taylor Office: (208) 521-6722

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day; April 24 at College of Eastern Idaho and Broulim's in St. Anthony; Drop Off Unused Prescriptions and Help Prevent Misuse

(SE Idaho) On April 24, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and its state and local partners will hold the 20th National Prescription Drug Take Back Day. The DEA began the initiative in 2010 to provide easy, anonymous opportunities to remove medicines from the home that are highly susceptible to misuse, abuse, and theft. On April 24 from 10 am to 2 pm, Idaho Office of Drug Policy, Center for HOPE, Bonneville Youth Development Coalition, Bonneville County Sheriff's Office, Idaho Falls Police Department, St. Anthony Police Department, and Eastern Idaho Public Health (EIPH) are hosting Take Back Day collection events in Idaho Falls and St. Anthony at the following locations:

- → College of Eastern Idaho (Idaho Falls) 1600 S. 25th E. (Hitt Road) near the Wal-Mart light
- \rightarrow Broulim's Fresh Foods (St. Anthony) 301 Aspen Square Street

Eastern Idaho Public Health will also be providing educational materials on drug deactivation pouches and naloxone.

The event will allow community members to safely and securely dispose of any unused or expired prescriptions and help prevent drug misuse in our state. All COVID-19 safety measures will be in place, and individuals will be able to simply drive through and drop off their medications. All prescription drugs will be accepted, as well as over-the-counter medications, vitamins, and veterinary medications. The Take Back Day collection sites will also accept vape pens, cartridges, or other e-cigarette devices (without the batteries in the device). **Needles will not be accepted.**

When left in a medicine cabinet, thrown away or flushed, unused prescriptions can be dangerous to people, animals, and the environment. Help keep our community safe and healthy by dropping off your old medication on Saturday, April 24.

If you miss your local Take Back Day and need to dispose of prescription medications, find yearround drop off locations online at <u>www.odp.idaho.gov/prescription-drug-take-back-program</u>.