



COUNTY OF YOLO

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Pharmaceutical Take-Back Program Protects Teens, Elderly and Environment

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Community Services Department, Integrated Waste Management Division has secured ongoing funding for a pharmaceutical take-back program through its hazardous waste service provider, Stericycle, to address the increasing problem of teen and elder prescription medication overdosing and the environmental degradation and compromise to the drinking water supply that occurs when medications are improperly disposed of in the trash or toilet. With this funding, pharmaceutical take-back kiosks have been placed throughout the county to provide free, safe and convenient disposal of all over-the-counter and prescription medications, including controlled and non-controlled substances.

“We are proud to sponsor these kiosks so that Yolo County residents have safe locations to dispose of unneeded medications,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Jim Provenza. “We have made it a top priority in our Strategic Plan to ensure a sustainable environment by addressing countywide waste reduction strategies and we are pleased that our Integrated Waste Management staff has once again established a valuable new program to serve our communities.”

Pharmaceutical Take-Back Kiosk locations and open hours are as follows:

- Davis Police Department, 2600 Fifth Street (Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)
- West Sacramento Jefferson Pharmacy, 1029 Jefferson Boulevard, Suite. A (Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
- Winters Eagle Drug Pharmacy, 101 Main Street (Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.)
- Woodland Police Department, 1000 Lincoln Avenue (Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)
- Yolo County Sheriff Monroe Detention Facility, 140A Tony Diaz Drive in Woodland (7 days a week, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.)

According to the U.S. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, approximately \$278 billion in prescription drugs were prescribed in the U.S in 2015. The Centers for Disease Control & Prevention estimates that up to 33% of those medications will not be used by the patient. This can lead to misuse of leftover pharmaceuticals by teens and elders, or improper disposal, the driving force behind this new program.

Items that will be taken at the kiosks include pill and liquid medications, medicated ointments and lotions, and pet medications. Sharps (needles and syringes) will not be accepted at the kiosks but are accepted every Friday and Saturday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Yolo County’s Household Hazardous Waste Facility, located at the landfill (44090 County Road 28H in Woodland). Senior and disabled Yolo County residents may schedule a free pick-up of sharps, pharmaceuticals and other household hazardous waste by calling (530) 666-8856.

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