



# City of Downey

FUTURE UNLIMITED

## Downey Police Department Plans to 'Take-Back' Unused and Unwanted Prescription Drugs on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

The Downey Police Department and community volunteers will be collecting unused, unwanted or out-of-date prescription medications on Saturday morning, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am – 2:00 pm. This event offers community members an opportunity to rid their homes of potentially dangerous drugs and minimize the potential for misuse and abuse.

The location for the April 28<sup>th</sup> event will be the Discovery Sports Complex / Columbia Memorial Space Center on Columbia Way, near Lakewood Blvd. The distribution will be a 'drive-thru' only event. Event participants should enter the park from Steve Horn Way (accessed from Bellflower Blvd). There will be no accommodations for walk-up visitors. All attendees will be directed to stay with their vehicles as they work their way through the collection effort. The collection will begin at 10:00 am and end at 2:00 pm. The event will be held rain or shine.

The event is co-sponsored by the Los Angeles Division of the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). The DEA is providing the collection boxes and will be responsible for the proper disposal of the discarded drugs. All of the drugs and containers will be incinerated.

Event attendees will have the option of dropping their prescription medications and containers into the DEA collection boxes or pouring their prescription medications into DEA collection boxes and keeping the drug containers.

The dangers of prescription drug abuse will be shared with everyone attending the event through special brochures.

Prescription drugs discarded into the sanitary sewer system may pose environmental problems for the ocean and the potable water supply. Water treatment plants are capable of filtering out nearly all impurities. However, traces of prescription drugs have been found after the filtration efforts are complete. The recycled water from the filtration plants is sent to settling basins to re-charge the ground water basins, used for landscape irrigation or released to the storm drains to flow to the ocean. Before this program was started, there were no legal means to transfer possession of certain prescription drugs for disposal.

Questions or comments may be directed to Jane Guzman at (562) 904-2374 or [jguzman@downeyca.org](mailto:jguzman@downeyca.org).