

Alamosa Police Department

2431 Main Street, #22
Alamosa, Colorado 81101

CRAIG DODD, CHIEF OF POLICE

Press Release

November 9, 2011

San Luis Valley law enforcement joined the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) in National Prescription Drug Take Back Day on **Saturday, October 29, 2011, from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.** to provide a venue for persons who wished to dispose of unwanted and unused prescription drugs.

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. More than seven million Americans currently abuse prescription drugs, according to the 2009 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Each day, approximately 2,500 teens use prescription drugs to get high for the first time according to the Partnership for a Drug Free America. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including the home medicine cabinet.

Nationwide, approximately 200 tons of prescription medications were turned in on latest drug take-back day. The success of this project is indicative of the need for convenient methods of disposing of unwanted or expired prescription drugs so they don't fall into the hands of prescription drug abusers or pollute our environment.

Locally, a total of 149 pounds of prescription drugs were turned in to local law enforcement officials. We would like to thank all valley residents, law enforcement agencies, and the San Luis Valley Prevention Coalition for their participation in this very successful event.

Results:

Del Norte Colorado: 56 pounds
Antonito Colorado: 42 pounds
Alamosa Colorado: 30.6 pounds
Monte Vista Colorado: 10 pounds
Center Colorado: 3.4 pounds
La Jara Colorado: 3 pounds
Saguache County: 2 pounds
Costilla County Colorado: 1 pound
South Fork Colorado: 1 pound

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"WE CARE"

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