

HC DrugFree: Keeping Howard County *in the KNOW!* ...knowledge is power, so just say KNOW

None of us, including me,
ever do great things.
But we can all do small things,
with great love,
and together we can do something wonderful.

Mother Teresa

Drive-Thru Open on Saturday!

Medication & Sharps Disposal

Convenient Drive-Thru Event Saturday October 29 • 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



Safely dispose of:

- Prescription medication
- Over-the-counter medication
- Sharps (syringes, needles, EpiPens, etc.)
- Vitamins
- Pet Medication
- Vape devices (with batteries removed)
- Inhalers
- And more!

Wilde Lake Village Center Parking Lot 5305 Village Center Drive, Columbia 21044

Medication Lockbox Giveaway!

We have 100 medication lockboxes to give away for FREE!

\$42 value.
First come, first served.
Limit 1 per vehicle.





Drive-Thru Medication & Sharps Disposal Event

Our semi-annual drive-thru medication & sharps disposal event (aka Drug Take Back Day) is just around the corner, and we can't wait to see you!

Join us on Saturday October 29 from 10 a.m. – 2p.m. in the Wilde Lake Village Center Parking Lot (near the Columbia Swim Center.)

We are accepting:

- Prescription medication
- Over-the-counter medication
- Vitamins
- Vape devices (with the batteries removed, please!)
- Inhalers
- Sharps (EpiPens, syringes, needles, etc.)
- Veterinary medication
- AND MORE!

Free Gift While Supplies Last

We are giving away 100 aluminum medication storage lockboxes (\$42 value) so come early because they won't last long! (First come, first served. No holds. Limit 1 per vehicle.)

Free Narcan/Naloxone Training

In addition to our drive-thru medication & sharps disposal, please take advantage of the opportunity to receive FREE Naloxone training during the event! Walk-ups welcome.

Volunteers Needed!

We are only a few days away from the big event and we still need more volunteers! We have positions for students (community service hours available) and adults, standing and sitting (bring your own chair.) We also have a particular need for medically trained volunteers to help at the medication sorting table! Sign up to volunteer at the links below:

Adult & Medically Trained Volunteer Registration

Student Volunteer Registration

See you on Saturday October 29 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Wilde Lake Village Center Parking Lot (near the Columbia Swim Center) Saturday October 29 • 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. 5305 Village Center Drive, Columbia 21044

Download the flier

Why Does Proper Disposal Matter?

In the KNOW...

About Medication & Sharps Disposal



Expired or unwanted medication may be misused intentionally or unintentionally.



Flushed medications may pollute our water supply and the surrounding environment.



Improperly disposed of sharps may result in injury to yourself or others!

Help us keep our community safe!



Thank You For Attending Our Virtual Town Hall

We want to extend a big thank you to everyone who attended and contributed to our virtual town hall about teen substance misuse in Howard County.

Stay tuned for our next town hall, coming soon!



Students - Earn Community Service Hours!



We are in search of **Teen Volunteers** for our Medication & Sharps Disposal event coming up on Saturday October 29th from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Student volunteers can earn community service hours while making a difference in our community!

Register Now:

Student Volunteer Registration

Looking for more ways to get involved?

HC DrugFree invites all **Howard County students in grades 8-12** to join the Teen Advisory Council (TAC). TAC provides a meaningful way for students to earn community service hours while building a powerful resume for job and college applications.

Our next meeting is Monday, November 14 at 5:30 p.m. on Zoom. Register today to join TAC and make a difference! <u>Learn more</u>

Texas School Implements No-Phone Policy with Mixed Reactions

A 2021 survey revealed that 37% of 11-year-olds had a smartphone. By age 14, 91% had a cell phone. After school leaders noticed more distracted students, a Texas school district approved a controversial policy to use a Yondr pouch to lock-up student cell phones until the end of the school day.

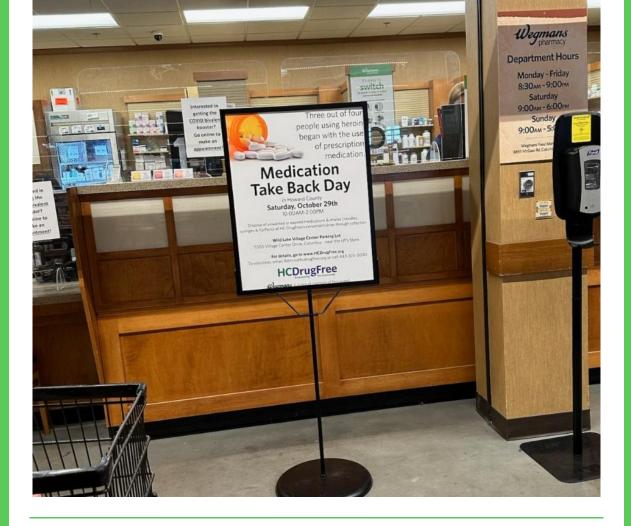
Read more

Thank You, Wegmans!

Many thanks to <u>Wegmans</u> for sponsoring HC DrugFree and for promoting our <u>Medication & Sharps disposal</u> <u>event</u> in your Columbia store.

It takes a village and we are grateful to count you among our partners.





Scouts: Earn Your Red Ribbon Week Patch

Scouts, there is a very special opportunity for you to <u>earn a unique patch</u> during DEA's Red Ribbon Week, which is celebrated annually from October 23-31.

Volunteering at our Medication & Sharps
Disposal Event is one way to get involved and
show your support of Red Ribbon Week.
Volunteer as an individual or bring your whole
troop! To keep youth volunteers safe, we require
an adult chaperone to attend with them.



Adult Volunteer Link

Student Volunteer Link

Learn More about the Red Ribbon Week Patch Program!

If you have questions, please reach out to admin@hcdrugfree.org

Friends Star Matthew Perry Shares His Scary Addiction Journey

Actor Matthew Perry, who many will recognize from the popular sitcom,

Friends, is finally sharing the heartbreaking details of his addiction story. **Read more**

Celebrating DEA Red Ribbon Week: October 23-31

HC DrugFree is proud to partner with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) throughout the year and during Red Ribbon Week.

Our Town Hall this past Monday, newsletters, social media and drive-thru medication and sharps collection this coming Saturday are just some of the ways HC DrugFree continues to promote Living Drug Free. Please stand with us.





Allergy Medication May Play Deadly Role in Opioid Epidemic

Researchers at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are studying overdose deaths the potentially deadly side effects of taking common allergy medications in conjunction with opioids. Read more

Understanding Situational Tolerance



You may have heard of alcohol tolerance...but did you know that tolerance is situational? In this video, Dr. Jason Kilmer explains how your situation can impact the affect alcohol has on you, and how drinking in locations that are

new to you can increase your risk of alcohol overdose.

What is Huffing?

Parents beware! There are products in your home that many teens are using to achieve a high. Huffing is a form of substance abuse that involves inhaling fumes from aerosol sprays and other common household products, such as canned air. This practice is extremely dangerous and can be fatal or cause permanent physical damage. Read more

Follow and Like Us

Join our social media community for more content and easy ways to share important and potentially life-saving information with your friends and network.

Remember: **Knowledge is Power** and together we can help keep our community informed, safe, and **In the KNOW**.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn!









Your Financial Support Keeps Us Working for YOU



Make your donation today to become a <u>Friend or Sponsor of HC DrugFree</u>. We depend upon the generosity of individuals, organizations, and businesses to support our free services. Please make a gift of any size today.















Additional Resources



For more information, contact

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