



# Press Release

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## Harris Teeter to Host Drug Take-Back Event on October 29

*The company will host drug take-back events on National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day at three Harris Teeter locations*

**Matthews, NC** – Harris Teeter will host a drug take-back event at three of its locations from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturday, October 29, 2022, as part of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration’s National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. These events will provide a safe, convenient and anonymous way for local residents to dispose of unused or expired medications.

**Saturday, October 29, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.**

Morrocroft Village Shopping Center	6701 Carnegie Boulevard	Charlotte, N.C.
Stonecrest Shopping Center	7852 Rea Road	Charlotte, N.C.
Smith Farm Road Shopping Center	4701 Smith Farm Road	Charlotte, N.C.

During the events, our law enforcement and safety partners provide Mecklenburg County residents an opportunity to properly dispose of old, unused, or outdated prescription medication in an environmentally and legally safe method. The purpose of the event is to bring awareness to the increasing trend of prescription drug poisonings and bring awareness to the risk of disposal into the local environment.

Independent public health experts agree that properly disposing of prescription medications is essential to the fight against the opioid epidemic. According to the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, nearly 54 percent of those who misused prescription drugs obtained them from a friend or relative.<sup>1</sup> The Geisinger Center for Health Research found that only about 11% of unused medication is disposed of properly.<sup>2</sup> Further, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine recommendations include the need for improved consumer access to convenient and year-round drug take-back opportunities to reduce the amount of unused medications available for misuse.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Available online at: <https://www.samhsa.gov/data/sites/default/files/NSDUH-FFR2-2015/NSDUH-FFR2-2015.htm>.

<sup>2</sup> Geisinger Center Health Research. Available online at: <https://www.geisinger.org/about-geisinger/news-and-media/news-releases/2017/03/24/18/30/study-highlights-most-common-medications-left-unused-by-patients>

<sup>3</sup> National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine. Pain Management and the Opioid Epidemic: Balancing Societal and Individual Benefits and Risks of Prescription Opioid Use. Available online at: <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/24781/pain-management-and-the-opioid-epidemic-balancing-societal-and-individual>

## **About Harris Teeter**

Harris Teeter, with headquarters in Matthews, N.C., is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Kroger Co. (NYSE: KR). The regional grocery chain employs approximately 35,000 associates and operates stores in North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, Georgia, Maryland, Delaware, Florida and the District of Columbia.