

# Got Drugs?

**Most abused prescription drugs  
come from family and friends.  
You could be a drug dealer and  
not even know it.**

Visit [www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov)  
for more information.

- ◆ Unused or expired prescription medications are a public safety issue, leading to accidental poisoning, overdose, and abuse.
- ◆ Pharmaceutical drugs can be just as dangerous as street drugs when taken without a prescription or a doctor's supervision.
- ◆ The non-medical use of prescription drugs ranks second only to marijuana as the most common form of drug abuse in the United States.
- ◆ The majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs got them from family and friends, with the home medicine cabinet a primary source.
- ◆ Unused drugs thrown in the trash in their bottles can be retrieved and abused or illegally sold. Proper disposal of unused prescription drugs can save lives.
- ◆ Take-back programs are the best way to dispose of old drugs. But if a program is not available :
  - ◆ Take the meds out of their bottles;
  - ◆ Mix them with something unappealing like used kitty litter or coffee grounds;
  - ◆ Seal them in a bag or disposable container, and throw that away.