

Nationally available Mail-back Program

In 2009, Sharps Compliance Inc. launched a program called TakeAway™ to provide a prepaid mailer for individuals to return unwanted medicines (non-controlled only). The envelopes are sold individually or in larger volumes on the Sharps website:

http://www.sharpsinc.com/shopping/index.php?main_page=index&cPath=70

The website describes this new approach as:

“The Sharps' TakeAway&trade System is the quick, easy solution to proper disposal of medications, other than controlled substances. Contact your pharmacist regarding the disposal of controlled substances. Protect your patients - and the environment - by ordering today.

- Convenient turn-key solution includes shipping and regulated disposal
- Accepts both medication cards and vials so no more popping medications from blister packs
- No hidden costs or fees, simply fill it and send it back for destruction”

The program also has larger containers available for larger residential collection programs. All containers are mailed via U.S. mail to a facility in Carthage TX where law enforcement witnesses the incineration.

Iowa has launched a pilot program in November 2009 and is providing the Sharps Inc. containers/envelopes to more than 300 pharmacies. The program was initiated through legislation and is being administered by the Iowa Pharmacy Association and Sharps Compliance Inc. The pilot program is being paid for with \$160,000 in state funds.