



Oregon Drug Take Back Program

NACWA P2 Conference
November, 2007
Denver, Colorado

Oregon ACWA

Statewide non-profit serving

- Wastewater treatment
- Stormwater management
- Associated professional firms

114 members statewide



Oregon's Pretreatment Programs

Outstanding programs

- Corvallis
- Wilsonville
- Salem
- Clean Water Services
- MWMC
 - Eugene/Springfield



Summary



- ✓ Oregon's actions to develop a Drug Take Back Program
- ✓ Advocate for NACWA and your utility leadership
 - Moving issue to national agenda
 - Emerging contaminants
 - Leadership
 - Partnership
 - Product stewardship



Why?

- Reduce avoidable poisonings
 - Children & adults
- Prevent prescription drug abuse & addiction
 - Mostly teens
- Protect water quality



Why?



☛ Reduce avoidable poisonings

- Drug poisoning was 77% of the pediatric hospital visits in Oregon in 2004
- In the US
 - Poisoning is 2nd leading cause of death for 35 – 54 year olds
 - 3rd leading cause for 25 – 34 year olds

Why?

- ✓ Prevent prescription drug abuse & addiction
 - Prescription drugs only second to marijuana as nation's most prevalent drug problem
 - Average number of people using pain relievers non-medically for the first time exceeds new marijuana users
 - Young people get drugs from family and friends

Why?

- USGS study found microcontaminants in 80% of the streams sampled
 - Can't distinguish between flushed and excreted
- Detected in landfill leachate
 - Landfills often connect to POTWs
- Industry estimates 10% of drugs in influent is flushed
 - Might be higher



Sources of drugs

- Long term care facilities
- Other adult care facilities
 - Adult foster care, etc.
- Homes
- Hospitals
- Vet clinics



Regulatory Challenges



DEA Regulations

- Controlled drugs can only be returned to law enforcement officer
 - OxyContin
 - Morphine
 - Ritalin
 - More...

Developing an Oregon Drug Take Back Program



- ☛ Stakeholder group process
 - Graduate student for research
- ☛ Funded by
 - ACWA
 - Oregon Water Utilities Council
 - Oregon DEQ
 - Others...

Developing an Oregon Drug Take Back Program

■ Broad Stakeholder Group

- Oregon Board of Pharmacy
- Oregon DEQ
- Oregon State Pharmacist Assoc.
- PhRMA
- Oregon Water Utilities Council
- Oregon Hospice Association
- Oregon Poison Center
- Environmental public interest groups
- Drug Enforcement Admin.
- Others...



Goals for Oregon Program

- ✓ Legal under Federal Drug Enforcement Administration regulations
 - Controlled substances
 - Chain of custody and tracking requirements
- ✓ Focus on home and health care industry
- ✓ Convenient and understandable for public
- ✓ Affordable
- ✓ Statewide

Developing an Oregon Drug Take Back Program



- Stakeholder Group
 - Met since October, 2006
 - Detailed recommendations for Oregon program
 - Gathering endorsements
 - Moving to 2009 Oregon Legislature

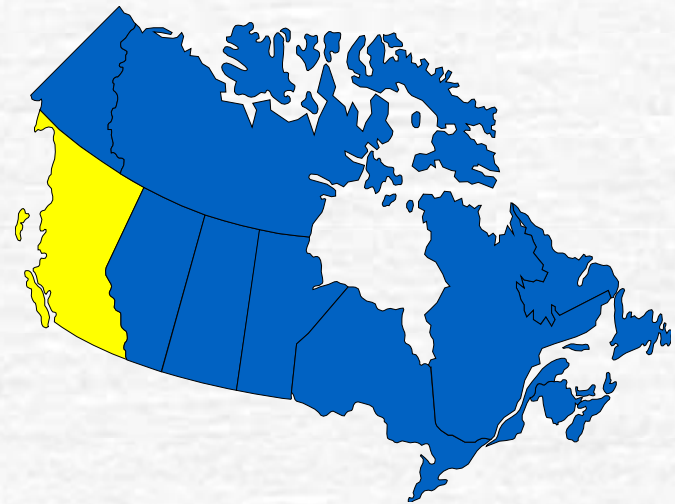
Building An Oregon Program



- Estimating 60,000 pounds of unwanted drugs annually in Oregon
 - Based on existing program in British Columbia

British Columbia

- Medicines Return program
- Virtually all BC pharmacies participate
- In 2006, collected 44,000 pounds
 - \$257,000 CN
- No incidents in the 10 years of the program operation
- Most drug companies that serve BC, serve Oregon



Recommendations

- Product stewardship model
 - Drug manufacturers (including generic) and over the counter
 - Develop and fund best program
 - Likely mail back
 - Might need 2009 Oregon legislation to ensure participation
 - Want to work with industry

Options for an Oregon Program

- ✓ Drop Box at Pharmacy & Law Enforcement
- ✓ Drop Box at Pharmacy/Law Enforcement Mailer
- ✓ Law Enforcement Drop Box
- ✓ Oregon State Police Mailer
- ✓ Reverse Distributor Mailer
- ✓ Product Stewardship Model

Drop Box at Pharmacy & Law Enforcement

Pros

- Pharmacy drop off convenient for public
- Allowable under DEA regulations

Cons

- Added burden for law enforcement
- Pharmacist time to sort controlled & uncontrolled drugs

Drop Box at Pharmacy/ Law Enforcement Mailer

Pros

- Pharmacy drop off convenient for public
- Allowable under DEA regulations

Cons

- Expensive to establish and operate
- Added burden for law enforcement
- Pharmacist time to sort

Law Enforcement Drop Box

Pros

- Allowable under DEA regulations

Cons

- Not convenient for public
- Likely low participation
- Burden on limited local resources

Oregon State Police Mailer

Pros

- Allowable under DEA regulations

Cons

- Diverts resources from State Police primary mission

Reverse Distributor Mailer

Pros

- Convenient for public
- Controlled & uncontrolled mailed together
- Cost effective
- Easy to expand (long term care, hospices, vets, etc.)
- Business interest

Cons

- Need waiver from DEA
- Needs cooperation and financial contract with commercial entity

Product Stewardship

Pros

- Industry organized and led
- Efficient
- Little/no government involvement
- Could be model for other parts of the nation

Cons

- Depends on industry to voluntarily organize and fund program

Final Stakeholders Report

- Includes detailed information

- Regulatory framework
- Other national programs
- Research details
- Stakeholder discussions
- 2-page executive summary

- Available on ACWA web site

- www.oracwa.org

Model for Emerging Contaminants

- ✓ Leadership, collaboration with other stakeholders
 - Transparency
 - Clear communication
- ✓ Product stewardship model
 - Pollution prevention is answer
 - Increase public's awareness of chemical use

NACWA Role?



- Assist in funding national dialogue with Product Stewardship Institute
- Successful in tackling other products
 - Electronics
 - Paint

Your Role?

- ☞ Engage your community
- ☞ Initiate discussions with pharmacists, law enforcement, and others in your community
- ☞ Lots of resources
 - PH:ARM
 - San Francisco Bay Area
 - Maine group

Questions?

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