

# National Take Back Initiative

May 18, 2011

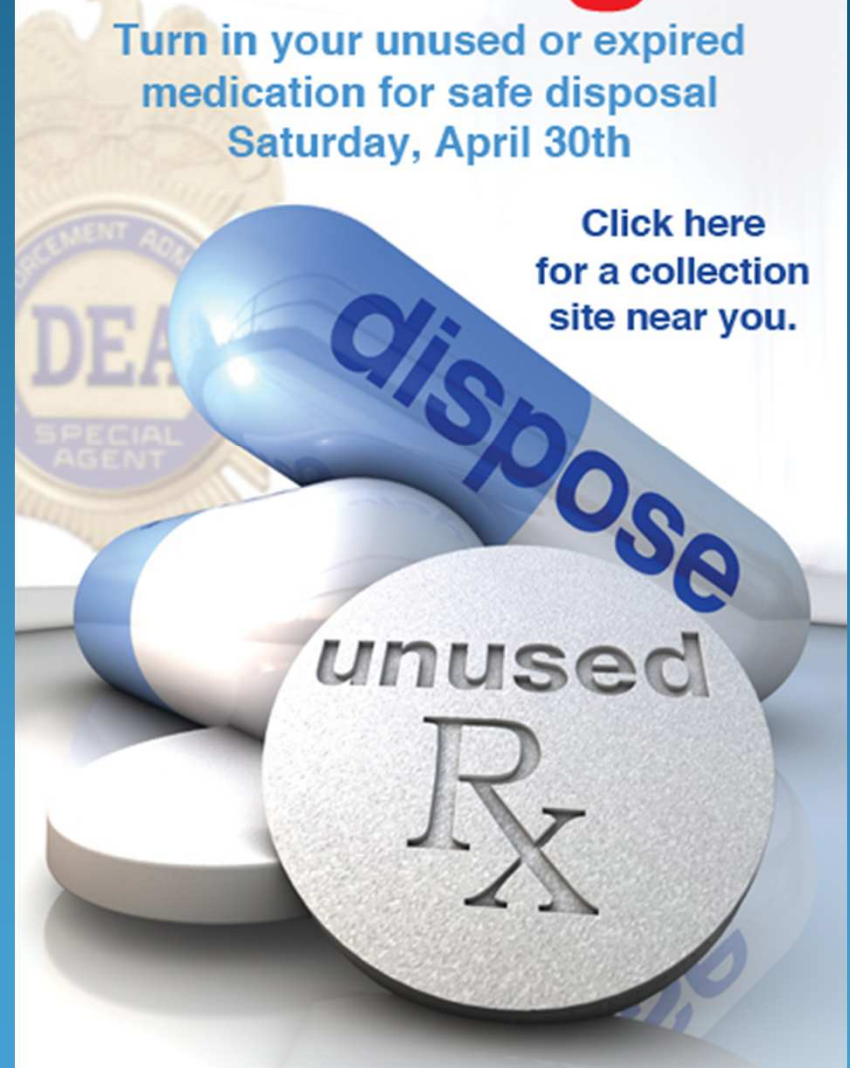
National Association of  
Clean Water Agencies

S. Scott Collier  
Drug Enforcement Administration  
St. Louis Division

## Got Drugs?

Turn in your unused or expired  
medication for safe disposal  
Saturday, April 30th

Click here  
for a collection  
site near you.

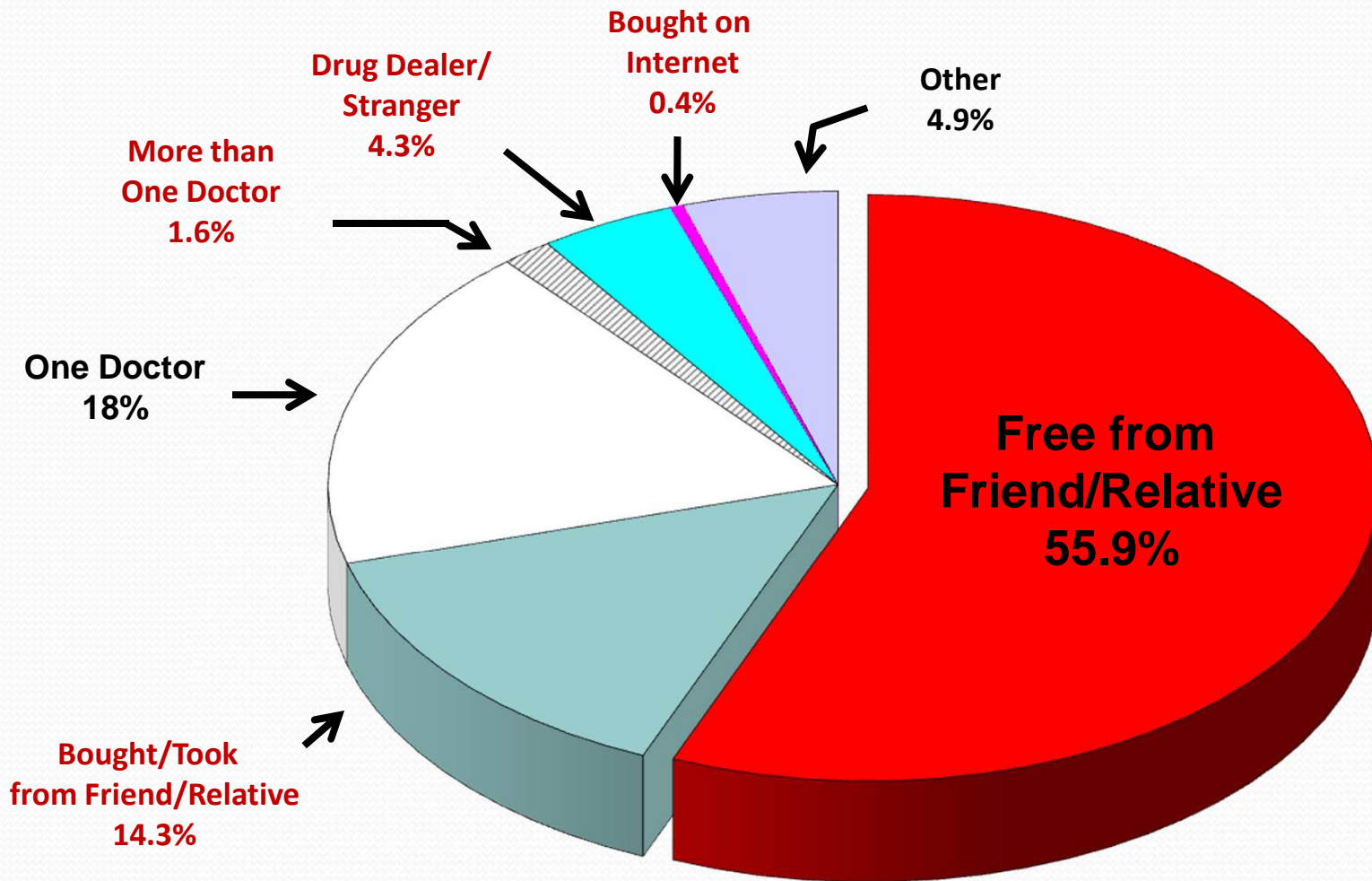




# Drug Abuse Statistics

- Over 20 million Americans abuse drugs regularly each month.
  - Rx Drug abuse accounts for 7 million abusers, second only to marijuana.
  - Rx narcotics (like hydrocodone & oxycodone) account for the majority of the controlled drugs abused.
  - There are more illicit users of prescription drugs, mostly narcotics, than there are users of heroin, cocaine, methamphetamine, LSD and Ecstasy combined.
- For teenagers, Rx drug abuse is now the most common drug used to initiate drug abuse. Up until 2009, the most common drug of initiation was marijuana.

# Source of Rx Narcotics Used Non-Medically 2009



Note: Totals may not sum to 100% because of rounding or because suppressed estimates are not shown.



**Sept 25, 2010**

**Over 4,000 locations  
nationwide**

**242,000 pounds  
collected nationwide**

**Nearly 14,000 pounds in  
Missouri, Kansas, Iowa,  
Nebraska & South  
Dakota**



**April 30, 2011**

**Over 5,300 locations  
nationwide**

**Over 376,000 pounds  
collected nationwide**

**Over 27,000 pounds  
collected in Iowa,  
Kansas, Missouri,  
Nebraska, South  
Dakota & S. Illinois**





Drop Off Venues took  
many forms...

A drive thru in Seattle



**At the police department  
Overland Park, Kansas**





## Kossuth County, Iowa





**Unloading a DEA aircraft  
to transport drugs to St  
Louis for incineration**



## **Final Disposition**

**Material was mixed with sludge and incinerated in an EPA licensed facility near St. Louis.**





# Simple Methods for Disposal at Home

- Mix the drugs in a moist medium and place with undesirable waste (used cat litter, coffee grounds, etc) in your trash.
- FDA recommends flushing drugs ONLY for the most potent narcotics (Demerol, Morphine, Oxycodone) in an effort to remove them from the home completely in order to avoid the life threatening risks from accidental ingestion of these meds.

<http://www.fda.gov/Drugs/ResourcesForYou/Consumers/BuyingUsingMedicineSafely/EnsuringSafeUseofMedicine/SafeDisposalofMedicines/ucm186187.htm#MEDICINES>



# **Safe & Responsible Drug Disposal Act**

- On Sept 29, 2010 Congress passed a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow individuals to deliver their leftover controlled Rx drugs to an appropriate person for disposal.
  - Current law prohibits individuals from disposing of unused or outdated controlled Rx drugs unless they are registered with the Drug Enforcement Administration.
  - DEA is considering multiple methods for such disposal to include mail pouches.
  - Our overriding concern is to prevent the diversion of these materials to the black market.



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