



Health Services Agency/ Public Health Department
Community Development & Infrastructure/Recycling & Solid Waste

Syringe Services Program Purposes and Implementation

Public Health & Waste Management Collaboration

County Code Requirements for Sharps & Pharms

- Santa Cruz County Code Chapter 7.95 – Safe Drug and Sharps Disposal.
 - Purpose:
 - Protect Public Health and the Environment through the safe collection/disposal of drug and sharps waste
 - Intent:
 - Establish a Drug & Sharps Product Stewardship Program
 - Shift the burden for end-of-life drug & sharps waste management from the public to product manufacturers.
 - Encourage product design to minimize negative impacts on human health and the environment.
 - Specifies Requirements for Product Stewardship Plans
 - Plan Reviewed for County Code Compliance
 - County Staff Reviews Plan Adequacy
 - Health Services Agency
 - Recycling & Solid Waste
 - NOTE: CalRecycle Staff Reviews for State Law Compliance
 - Issues Annual Program Budget Completeness Determination



County Product Stewardship – Waste Focus Plan Requirements:

- **Certification** – Plan must accept all unwanted products;
- **Contact Information** – Plan administrator and all participant companies;
- **Collection Specifics** – Plan outlines disposal methods and locations;
- **Permit Specifics** – Plan identifies legal status of all waste transporters and disposal facilities;
- **Product Tracking** – Plan must ensure secure handling from collection to disposal;
- **Public Outreach** – Plan to publicize program and evaluate effectiveness;
- **Project Scope** – Plan is reasonably related to the amount of covered drugs and sharps sold in Santa Cruz County;
- **Law Enforcement Support** – Technical support to Law Enforcement when accepting controlled substances; and
- **Cost Allocation** – Plan to fairly distribute program costs among participant companies relative to their covered products sold in Santa Cruz County.

Staffing Syringe/Sharps Programs

- Collaboration between County, Local Jurisdictions, and Stakeholder Groups
 - Primary County Partners
 - Health Services Agency
 - Coordinates Health Service Delivery
 - Oversees Community Cleanups (HSA, Environmental Health)
 - Refers Program Participants to Covered Service
 - Provides Staff Support to Commission
 - Meets with Program Plan Administrators
 - Reviews Waste Disposal Reports
 - Recycling and Solid Waste
 - Drafted County Code to Initiate Product Stewardship Program
 - Reviews Product Stewardship Program Plans for Code Compliance
 - Meets with Program Plan Administrators
 - Reviews Waste Disposal Reports

County Program Drawbacks

- Varied Legal Requirements
 - State Law Covers Syringe Services Program (SSP) Requirements
 - Health Services Agency manages SSP
 - Santa Cruz County Code Covers Sharps & Pharm Takeback Program.
 - Public Works & HSA Oversee Takeback & Disposal Program(s)
 - Med-Project - Sharps & Pharm stewardship council
 - Inmar (in certification process to become product stewards)
- Varied County Jurisdictional Authority
 - Health Services Agency has countywide jurisdiction
 - Public Works has jurisdiction in unincorporated county only
- Varied County Funding
 - SSP funding primarily county budget w/some grant & State funds
 - Sharps & Pharm Takeback funding covered by stewardship plan
 - Some exceptions (public kiosks)
- Varied Program Compliance Oversight
 - State Department of Public Health & County Board of Supervisors provide SSP oversight
 - CalRecycle provides sharps & pharm stewardship program compliance oversight



Questions?

Thank You

