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