

# DEALING WITH COLORADO HOUSEHOLD MEDICATION WASTE

COLORADO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

CIPCA Membership Meeting  
February 16, 2012



Colorado Department  
of Public Health  
and Environment

# Medicated Nation

## Prescription Drug Sales (2010)<sup>1</sup>

Colorado

39.4 million / \$2.3 billion / 7.8 per capita

United States

3.7 billion / \$221 billion / 12.0 per capita

## Over-the Counter Sales (2010)<sup>2</sup>

\$17.0 billion (>100,000 products on market)

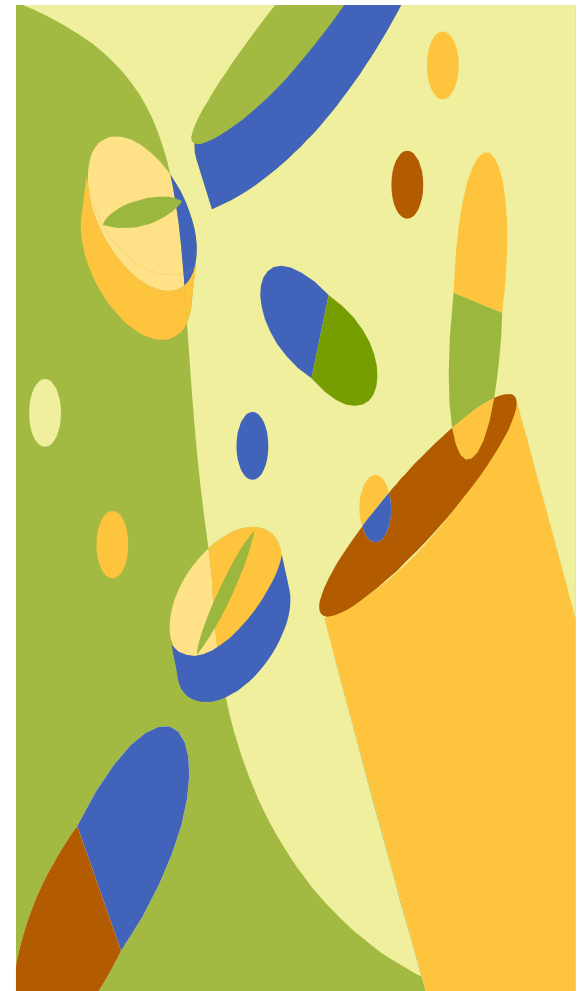
## Prescription Waste

2 – 52 % ??      PhRMA– 2.8 million pounds??

1. Kaiser Family Foundation (Retail Sales)

2. Consumer Products Healthcare Assoc.

(Does not include Wal-Mart sales)

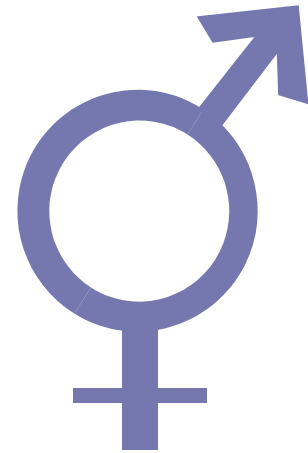


# DRUGS IN THE ENVIRONMENT

“Fish sex change investigated – CU group establishes treatment plant effluent as culprit” *Boulder Daily Camera* - Dec. 2006

“Pharmaceuticals found in drinking water, affecting wildlife and maybe humans”  
*AP* - March 2008

“Biosolids contain relatively high concentrations (hundreds of milligrams per kilogram) of the active ingredients commonly found in a variety of household products and drugs” *USGS* - 2006



# DRUGS IN THE HOME

**“In 2009 twice as many people in Colorado died from prescription drug abuse (445) than from drunk-driving related crashes (158)”**

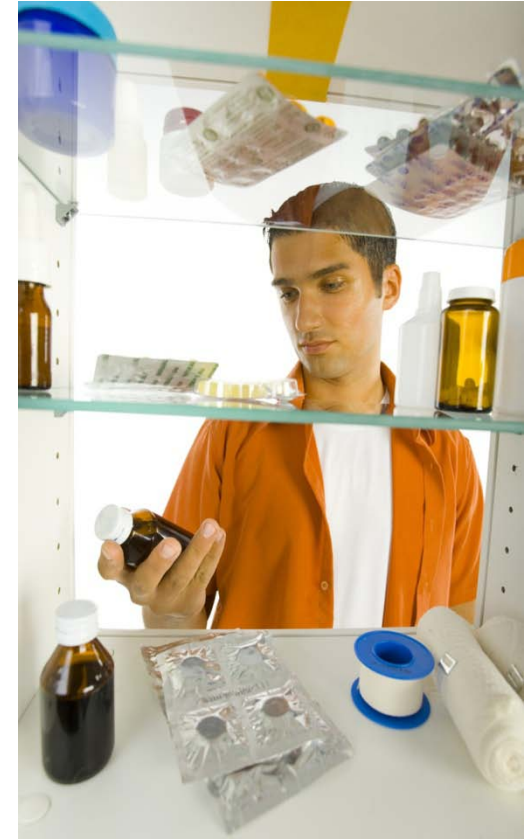
*NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts CO: 2005-2009*

**“Nationally 1 in 5 teens (19%) report abusing prescription drugs that were not prescribed to them”**

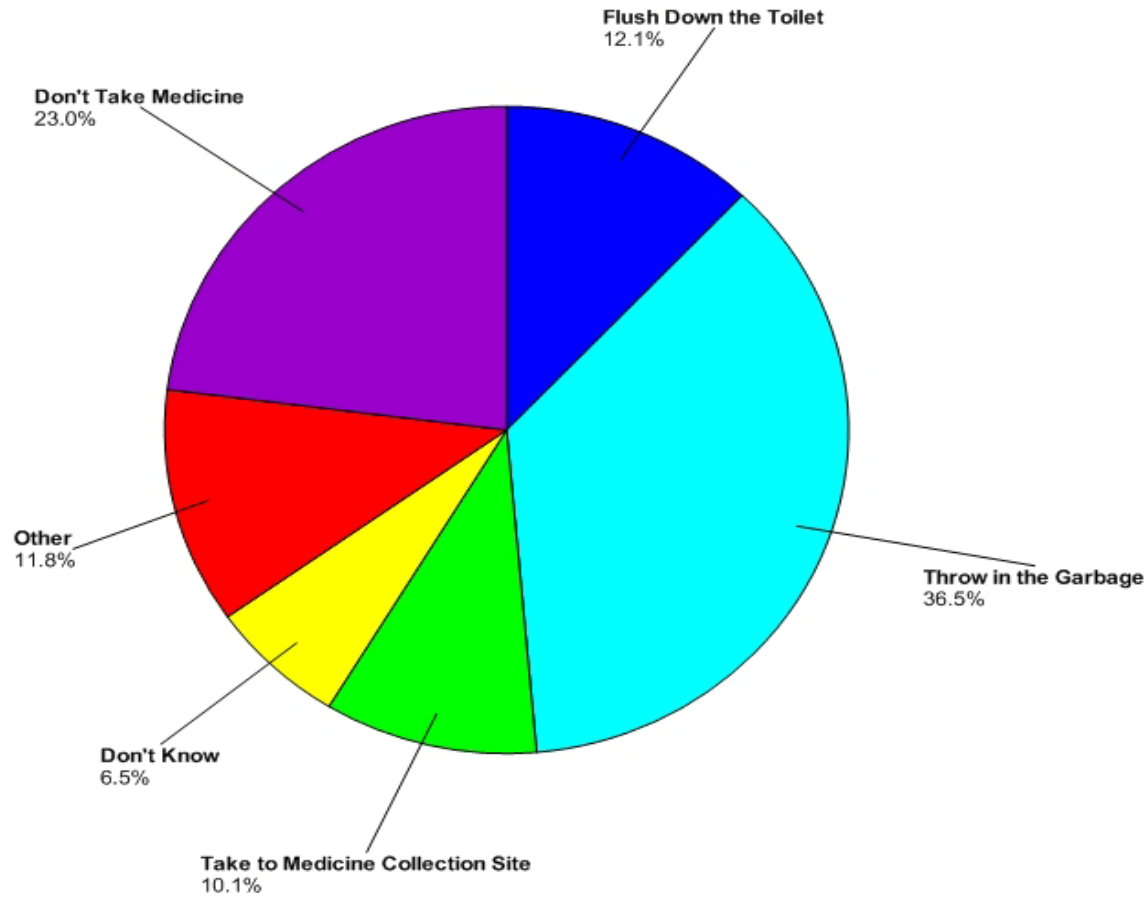
*Partnership for a Drug Free America - 2005-2006*

**“70% of children who abuse prescription drugs get them from family and friends”**

*SAMHSA- 2007*



# Colorado Medication Disposal Practices



Source: Colorado 2009 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS), Health Statistics Section, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.

# Alternatives to Trash and Drain Disposal

## ➤ Drop Box Programs : No User Fees

- Colorado Medication Take-Back Pilot Project

- 11 Locations – Metro Denver, Summit County
- 16,000 lbs collected in 2 years
- CDPHE and partner funds
- Arkansas hazardous waste incinerator

- Good Day Pharmacies

- 10 Locations – Northern Front Range
- Est. 1,200 pounds collected per month
- Pharmacy funds
- Alabama waste-to-energy incinerator



# Alternatives to Trash and Drain Disposal

## ➤ Drop Box Programs : No User Fees

- Nat'l Community Pharmacists Association

- 7 Locations – Statewide
- Collection data unavailable
- Pharmacy funds
- Texas waste-to-energy incinerator



- P<sub>2</sub>D<sub>2</sub> Glenwood Springs

- 1 Location – Police Department
- 76 pounds collected in 2010
- Partner funds
- Police contraband incinerator



# Alternatives to Trash and Drain Disposal

## ➤ Mail-In Programs : Small User Fees

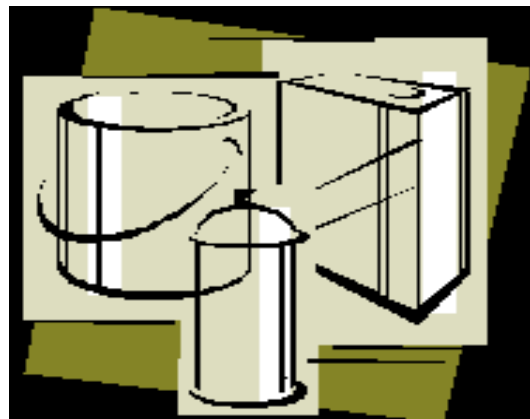
- Walgreens, Rite-Aid, Safeway, King Soopers /City Mkt
  - Approximately 200 locations – Statewide
  - 1,324 pounds collected in 2011 (includes NCPA locations)
  - User funds
  - Texas waste-to-energy incineration





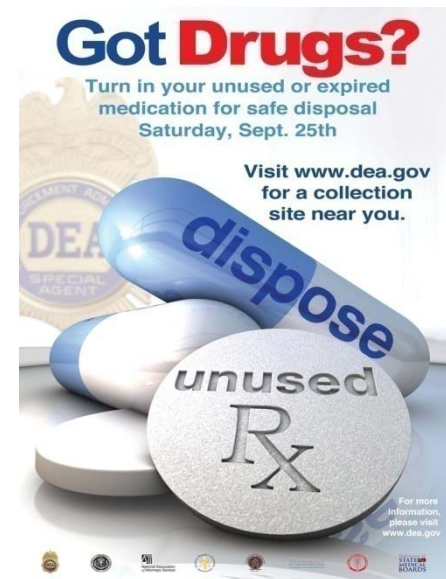
# Alternatives to Trash and Drain Disposal

- **County HHW Programs – No User Fees**
  - Eagle, El Paso, Teller, Larimer, Mesa Counties
    - On-going
  - La Plata County/City of Durango Partnership
    - 2012 event
  - Collection data unavailable
  - Local funds



# Alternatives to Trash and Drain Disposal

- **DEA National Take-Back : No User Fees**
  - 3 events held since fall 2010
  - Approximately 100 locations – statewide
  - 35,000 pounds collected, inc. controlled substances
  - Federal funds
  - Utah waste-to-energy incinerator



# Efforts to Enhance Collection

## ➤ National Initiatives

- DEA Proposed Regulations
  - Effort began in January 2009
  - Amend Controlled Substances Act
  - Ease roadblocks to controlled substance disposal
  - Proposed rules expected February 2012
- Proposed Legislation
  - HR2939 : *Pharmaceutical Stewardship Act of 2011*
  - Manufacturer responsibility for disposal and costs
  - Unlikely passage
    - State pharmaceutical product stewardship legislative proposals all defeated to-date

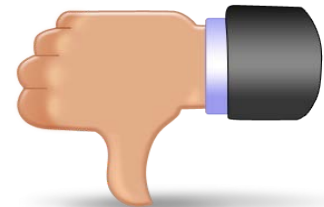
# Efforts to Enhance Collection

## ➤ Colorado Initiatives

- Proposed Legislation

HB12-1122: *Medication Take-back Divert From Water Disposal*

- Seeks to establish a Medication Take-Back Program
  - For collection and disposal of household medications
  - Limits liability of participating entities
  - Establishes dedicated fund
    - Can accept gifts, grants and donations
    - Pays for drop boxes or other approved collection methods
    - Pays for incineration or other approved disposal methods
    - Pays for public education program
- Does not identify a funding source



# Efforts to Enhance Collection

## ➤ Colorado Initiatives

### • CDPHE Efforts

- Developing a sustainable, statewide take-back program
  - Available to majority of Colorado citizens
  - Funded on a sustainable basis
  - Cost-effective

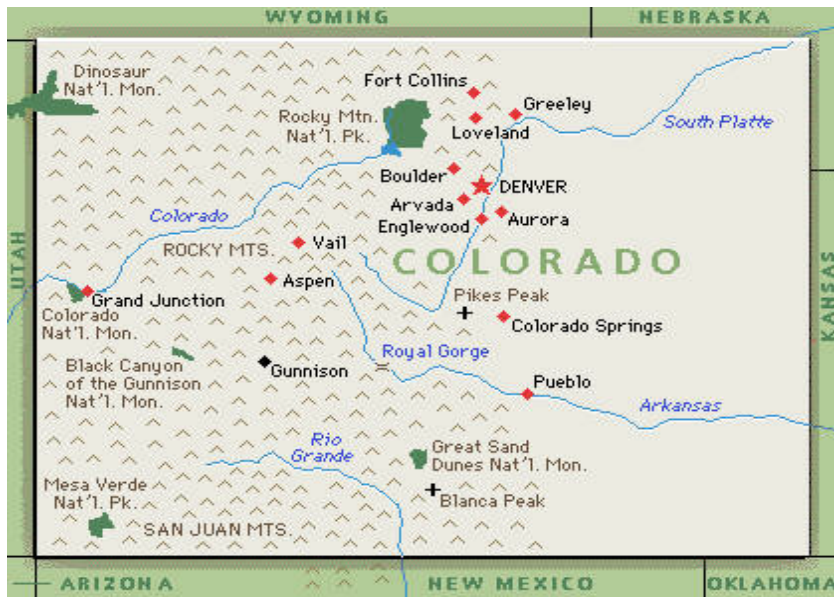
### • Current Activities

- Requesting participation and support – Dr. Urbina’s letter
- Developing stakeholders list (~ 40 identified)
- Gathering letters of support
- Tracking DEA regulations and federal/state legislation

# Developing a Statewide Program

## ➤ Challenges

- *Welcome to Colorful (and Large) Colorado*



5.2 million people

64 counties

27 cities > 10,000 population

104,094 sq. miles

# Developing a Statewide Program

## ➤ More Challenges

- Implementation
  - Legislative support no longer an option
  - Coalition approach
- Funding
  - Residents, local agencies, state agencies, manufacturers?
  - Mechanism – CDPHE cannot accept gifts, grants, donations
- Cost Effectiveness
  - Economy of scale versus 104,000 square mile service area
- Changing Federal Regulations
  - Need to include controlled substances
- Other Programs
  - Consolidate or compliment?



# Developing a Statewide Program

## ➤ What Can CIPCA Do?

- Consider Stakeholder Participation
  - Water and Wastewater Utilities Enlisted
    - Donala Water and Sanitation, Longmont (IPP), Boulder, Greeley, Littleton/Englewood
    - Coordination with CIPCA?
- Consider Stating Support
  - Water and Wastewater Entities Submitting Statements
    - Fort Collins Utilities, Greeley Water and Sewer
    - Colorado Water Utility Council
- Support DEA Collection Event on April 28, 2012



# QUESTIONS?

- Contact
  - Greg Fabisiak
    - 303-692-2903
    - [greg.fabisiak@state.co.us](mailto:greg.fabisiak@state.co.us)
- Take-Back Project Web Site
  - [www.coloradomedtakeback.info](http://www.coloradomedtakeback.info)

