Pharmaceuticals and Product Stewardship in Minnesota

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Government’s Previous Role - Linear Waste Management System

Manufacturers ➔ Retailers ➔ Consumers ➔ Recycle & Garbage Bins ➔ Local Government Funded ➔ Recycling & Landfill Processes

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Government’s New Role - “Cradle to Cradle” System

Manufacturers → Retailers → Consumers → Materials → Take Back Programs

Materials are recycled into new products

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NACo Pharmaceuticals Resolution

NACo Resolution adopted July, 2009

• Purpose – maximizing collection & safe disposal
• Via internalized manufacturer financing mechanism
• Covers all costs
• Not government dollars
NACo Pharmaceuticals Resolution

- Storage and illegal use problems
- Surface water
- Increase in number of prescription drugs
- Canadian models already exist
- LOTS of phone calls, press, support – and still growing
- Next steps for Resolution…..
August 2009 New SWMCB Policy Development and Recommended Roles

- Develop policies to advance product stewardship, focus on “framework”
- Education & Communication – common definition, advance understanding with others, develop information materials
- Advocacy – legislative support, focus on framework
- Research – GHG, Canadian models, LCA
- Coordination & Regulation – partners, purchasing, targets, goals
- Prioritizing products – GHG, resource conservation, markets, infrastructures, volume, potential for success, etc.
Minnesota and Pharmaceuticals

Pharmaceuticals collection is Needed & Wanted

• October 2007 WLSSD pharmaceutical collection – 166 households, 271 lbs., DEA controlled substance challenges

• Summer 2009 Chisago County pharmaceutical collection – Success but similar DEA challenges

• Federal legislation introduced by Amy Klobuchar, interest by Al Franken – both understand issues and poised for congressional opportunity
MN Pharmaceutical Legislation

• 2009 Pharmaceutical Product Stewardship bill introduced, sponsored by Representative Paul Gardner
• 2010 Possible bill amendments based on stakeholder meetings:
  Representative Gardner will hold stakeholder meetings this fall to clarify issues – law enforcement, abuse, environmental, health care facilities, existing BC model
  Request committee hearings – County Commissioners to testify
Next Steps
Speak with One Voice
Contact Information

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