

# Managing Pharmaceutical Waste in California Medical Facilities

## Agenda

- I. Welcome & Introduction (10 min)
- II. Pharmaceutical Waste Basics: RCRA Revisited – Charlotte Smith (30 min)
  - Introduction to issues of handling pharmaceutical waste
  - Review of basic RCRA requirements.
- III. Ten Steps to Pharmaceutical Waste Management in California – Jack McGurk (50 min)
  - Review of the California Blueprint and the 10 step process for handling pharmaceutical wastes in California
  - Best Management Practices
  - Differences between California and federal requirements
- IV. Break (10 min)
- V. Virtual Waste Segregation: Put Your Knowledge to the Test! (20 min)
  - Mix and match exercise for handling waste pharmaceuticals and packaging
- VI. Green Pharmacy Coalition for Safe Medicine Disposal – Dr. Joel Kreisberg, DC (30 min)
  - Introduction to the Green Pharmacy Coalition
  - Taking action to prevent pharmaceutical pollution



This workshop is sponsored and organized by the Bay Area Pollution Prevention Group (BAPPG), City of Palo Alto, City of San José, East Bay Municipal Utility District and the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. Partners for the workshop include Teleosis Institute, the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board, California Department of Public Health and Environmental Protection Agency Region IX. The BAPPG coordinates pollution prevention activities of more than 40 Bay Area wastewater treatment agencies. Our mission is to reduce the amount of toxic pollutants entering San Francisco Bay and local waterways.

## Speakers

**Charlotte A. Smith, R. Ph., M.S., HEM**, is President of PharmEcology Associates, LLC which she founded in 2000 to assist healthcare facilities in reducing and managing pharmaceutical waste. She has extensively studied the EPA's Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and related interpretations as they apply to waste pharmaceuticals to assure regulatory compliance.

**Jack McGurk** is President of Systems Improvement Initiators, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in assisting companies, hospitals and healthcare facilities to improve their operations, reduce employee injuries, implement cost-effective environmental improvements, and increase workplace morale. Mr. McGurk retired from the California Department of Health Services where he served as Chief of the Environmental Management Branch.

**Dr. Joel Kreisberg, DC, MA** is the Founder and Executive Director of the Teleosis Institute, an institution dedicated to reducing healthcare's footprint while broadening its ecological vision. Dr. Kreisberg is currently an adjunct professor at the School of Holistic Studies at John F. Kennedy University in Pleasant Hill, CA. Author of several books on Homeopathy and he has been teaching worldwide for over 20 years. He maintains a private practice in Homeopathy and Integrative Healthcare in Berkeley, CA.