

## Concerns Related to Designer Drugs:

- ◆ Increased medical emergencies
- ◆ Increased criminal behavior
- ◆ “Bath Salts” resulted in nearly 23,000 emergency department visits in 2011
- ◆ More than 19% of Sarasota Youth surveyed have tried K2/Spice
- ◆ Potential for harm, abuse & addiction

## Health Risks—Designer Drugs

According to the American Association of Poison Control Centers the following have been attributed to designer drug use:

- ◆ Fast & Racing Heartbeat
- ◆ Elevated Blood Pressure
- ◆ Nausea

Research has indicated that the chemicals found in synthetic marijuana are three to five times more potent than THC. Symptoms include

- \* Loss of Consciousness
- \* Paranoia
- \* Occasional Psychotic Episodes

## Behavior Health Consortium

- Sarasota Police Department
- Sarasota County Sheriff's Office
- Sarasota County Health & Human Services
- Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse
- Coastal Behavioral Healthcare
- First Step of Sarasota
- Drug Free Sarasota
- North Port Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention
- The Sarasota YMCA

**Research in Germany has indicated that synthetic marijuana use can lead to withdrawal symptoms & addictive behaviors**



Know what to look for...  
Designer Drugs

**THESE SUBSTANCES ARE NOT A SAFE ALTERNATIVE TO ILLICIT DRUGS. IN MANY CASES THEY CAN CAUSE MORE HARM**

**Please see Sarasota County Ordinance 2014-013 or [www.scosa.org](http://www.scosa.org) for more**

## Sarasota County Designer Drug Ordinance

### Prohibited under the new ordinance:

- Displaying, offering for sale, selling, delivering or purchasing
- Manufacturing
- Transporting
- Packaging
- Possession with or without intent to sell

**Those found in possession of any designer/synthetic drug can face time in jail or fines.**



Adopted February, 18, 2014  
Sarasota County Ordinance 2014-013

## What is considered a Designer Drug?

### Products that contain:

- **Kratom**—A natural, herbal psychotropic stimulant & opioid substitute. It is highly addictive with symptoms ranging from dry mouth to hallucinations.
- **Synthetic Cannabis**— These are popularly recognized as K2 or Spice. They are herbs sprayed with chemical compounds similar to those used to make PCP & Methamphetamine.
- **Synthetic Cathinones**—These are commonly referred to as “Bath Salts.” They are in an emerging family of drugs containing an amphetamine-like stimulant. The effects are similar to meth, ecstasy or cocaine.

CONSUMER COMMODITIES MAY NOT BE MISBRANDED

- ◆ Labels must correctly identify a commodity:
- ◆ Labels must provide the name & place of business of the manufacturer, packer, or distributor.
- ◆ Labels must list the active ingredients
- ◆ Labels must provide the net quantity of the package content.

### New Ordinance Information

On February 12, 2014 the Sarasota County Board of Commissioners unanimously passed Sarasota County Ordinance 2014-013 which in essence is a ban on Designer Drugs and Misbranded Consumer Commodities.

#### *THE ORDINANCE BANS THE FOLLOWING AS IT RELATES TO DESIGNER DRUGS:*

- ◆ Alteration
- ◆ Creation
- ◆ Manufacturing
- ◆ Packaging
- ◆ Transporting
- ◆ Possessing
- ◆ Displaying
- ◆ Offering for Sale
- ◆ Selling
- ◆ Delivering

On February 18, 2014, the Sarasota City Commission adopted Resolution 14R-2405 making Sarasota County Ordinance 2014-013 effective and enforceable within the city of Sarasota.



## Sarasota County Designer Drug Ordinance

The intent of the new ordinance is to declare illegal the manufacture, transport, display, sale or possession of designer drugs and misbranded consumer commodities in the City and County of Sarasota.

Anyone in possession, private citizen or commercial business may turn in designer/synthetic drugs to the Sarasota Police with NO legal ramifications

#### Helpful Websites:

- ◆ FBI Bulletin on Synthetic Marijuana  
<http://www.fbi.gov/stats-ser-vices/publications/law-enforcement-bulletin/may-2012/synthetic-marijuana>
- ◆ Sarasota Coalition on Substance Abuse  
[WWW.scosa.org](http://www.scosa.org)
- ◆ National Institute on Drug Abuse—Facts on Spice  
<http://www.drugabuse.gov/publications/drugfacts/spice-synthetic-marijuana>
- ◆ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—Injury Associated with Synthetic Cannabinoid Use  
<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm6206a1.htm>