

Sharps - syringes, needles Disposal Guide

It is important to manage and dispose of needles, lancets, and syringes (sharps) safely to prevent injury and disease transmission from needle-sticks. Never leave needles or syringes on streets, in parks, or anywhere else where someone could get injured. Never place *loose* needles or syringes in the trash or recycling.

A red commercial sharps disposal container from a mailback collection program reduces the risk of a sharps-related accident. It is very durable, clearly labeled, and closes securely. Containers for a mailback program can be found at many retailers.



Residents may also put used sharps in a laundry detergent bottle with a lid (sealed with tape) into the garbage.

To properly dispose of sharps in a laundry detergent container:

- Label container 'Do Not Recycle: Household Sharps'
- Put sharps in point-first
- Laundry containers more than half-full should be disposed of
- Store sharps in closed container with the cap screwed on