

How to Dispose of Used Sharps Safely



What is **acceptable** Sharps Waste?

Acceptable

- ✓ **Used Needles (including Pen Needles)** - Needles used to inject drugs (medication) under the skin.
- ✓ **Used Syringes** - Devices used to inject medication into or withdraw fluid from the body.
- ✓ **Used Lancets or Fingerstick Devices** - An instrument with a short, two edged blade used to obtain drops of blood (typically from finger). Does not include drum lancets that self-retract into sealed container.
- ✓ **Used single dose auto injectors** - (Like Epinephrine pen) With needle included in device. (Instruments with pre-filled medications designed to be self-administered).
- ✓ **Used infusion set needles or connection needles** - Needles used with tubing systems to deliver drugs/ fluids to/from the body.

Needlestick injuries from used sharps may cause infections or diseases. If you are stuck, seek immediate medical attention.

Not Acceptable

- ✗ Medications & pill bottles.
- ✗ PPE (gloves, gowns, masks).
- ✗ Garbage, Recycling & Packaging.
- ✗ Band aids & tissues.
- ✗ Multi-dose auto injector (like insulin pen) with no needle.
- ✗ Multi-lancet drums with self-retracting needle.
- ✗ Empty Vials.

Sharps should only be placed in a safe & approved sharps container NOT in general garbage.

DO NOT put sharps in plastic bottles or jugs.

DO NOT put sharps in garbage or recycling bags.

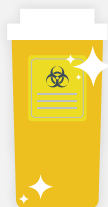
DO NOT flush sharps down the toilet.

DO NOT try to remove, bend or recap needles used by another person.

DO NOT put anything but sharps in the sharps containers.

Please dispose of your sharps safely. **Here's how:**

- 1** Pick up a free sharps container at your community pharmacy.



- 2** Place your used sharps into the container.



- 3** When the container is full, return the sealed container to your community pharmacy.

