

Importance of Safe Sharps Disposal

Used needles and other sharps are dangerous to people and pets if not disposed of safely because they can injure people and spread infections that cause serious health conditions such as Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV.

Pet owners who use needles to give medicine to their pets should follow the same sharps disposal guidelines used for humans.

Helpful Websites:

www.epa.gov/rcra/medical-waste

earth911.com/recycling-guide/how-to-recycle-medical-sharps

Safe Needle Disposal

www.fda.gov/MedicalDevices

Website:

www.richlandrecycles.com

What to Do If You Are Accidentally Stuck By a Used Needle or Other Sharp:

1. Wash the exposed area right away with water and soap or use a skin disinfectant (antiseptic) such as rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer.
2. Seek immediate medical attention by calling your physician or local hospital.

Examples of Sharps include:

- Needles
- Syringes
- Lancets
- Auto Injectors
- Infusion sets
- Connection needles/sets



SHARPS RECYCLING

Richland County Solid Waste



1125 National Parkway
Mansfield, Ohio 44906

419-774-5861

Needle Clippers

Needle clippers, which are FDA-cleared sharps containers, automatically store cut needles. The remaining syringe, after the needle has been clipped, can be placed in the regular household trash. When the needle clipper is full, place it in an FDA-cleared sharps container or a strong, plastic container and dispose according to your state or local regulations.



An example of a needle Clipper

Proper Sharps Disposal

- ◆ Immediately place used needles and other sharps in a sharps disposal container to reduce the risk of needle sticks, cuts, or punctures from loose sharps.
- ◆ Ask your medical or prescription insurer whether they cover sharps disposal containers.
- ◆ Ask the manufacturer of your drug products that are used with a needle or other sharps if they provide a sharps disposal container to patients at no charge.
- ◆ For more information, review Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's website: epa.ohio.gov

Don't throw loose needles and other sharps into the trash.

Don't flush needles and other sharps down the toilet.

Don't put needles and other sharps in your recycling bin—they are not recyclable.



You can purchase an FDA approved sealed plastic container at local retailers, such as CVS, Discount Drug Mart, Hursh Drug, Kroger's, Medicine Shoppe, Meijer, Rite Aid, Walgreens, and Wal-Mart for a fee. Other retailers sell FDA containers too.

Once the container is full do not take it back to the store where you purchased the container.

You can dispose of the container in your regular household trash or use a mail back program.

You may use Google to help you find mail back programs in your area.