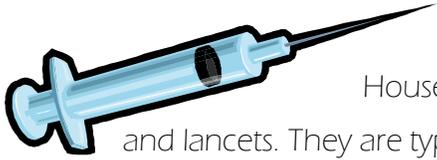


Disposal Tips for Household Generated Sharps



Household generated “sharps” include hypodermic needles and syringes, and lancets. They are typically used in the home for insulin injection or for administering other medications. Household generated sharps should be disposed of appropriately to help prevent injury and illness to family members and waste handlers and reduce pollution to the environment.

Environmental Sharps Management Options

1. Needle Destruction: use a home sharps destruction device or needle clipper available from medical supply sources.
2. Mail-Back: use a private sharps mail-back program (see sample list below)
3. Hospital Drop-Off: New London Hospital is our area’s only participant in this program (603 526-2911). Other participating hospitals are in Franklin, Rochester, Laconia, Littleton, Nashua, Colebrook, and Lancaster. Inquire about the NH Syringe Access Initiative by contacting Denise Rondeau, NH DHHS at 603 271-0290 or email drondeau@dhhs.state.nh.us.
4. Trash Disposal: the least desirable disposal method is allowed by the State of NH, but it may not be allowed by your town. If you use this disposal method, place your sharps in a rigid, puncture-resistant container such as a bleach or laundry detergent bottle, duct tape the cap in place, mark the bottle “not for recycling” and throw away with regular trash. Unfortunately, equipment may pop the bottle open during collection or at the Transfer Station. This can make your sharps dangerous projectiles – so let your transfer station attendant know when you have a bottle of sharps. DO NOT put in with recycling.

Sample of Private Sharps Mail-Back Programs

Company	Web Site Address	Phone #
Biomedical Waste Solutions	www.biomedicalwastesolutions.com/sharps-mail-back.php	877 974-1300
MediSend	www.medasend.com	800 200-3581
Sharps Markets	www.sharpsinc.com/syring-disposal.htm	800 772-5657
Stericycle	www.stericycle.com/sharps-disposal.html	866 783-7422
Waste Management, Inc.	www.thinkgreenfromhome.com	866 699-6466
X Med, Inc.	www.xmeddisposal.com	966 735-9709

The Department of Environmental Services regulates the disposal of household generated sharps; refer to EnvSw 904.01(b)(3). For further information on the infectious waste rules, as administered by the Department of Environmental Services, please contact the DES Solid Waste Management Bureau at 603 271-2925 or swcomp@des.nh.gov

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