

How to safely dispose of Sharps at home

“Sharps” are medical waste such as pen needles, lancets, or syringes that need to be disposed of safely.

Sharps need to be disposed of safely to protect you, the people in your home or people who handle trash.

Step 1: All used Sharps must be contained.

Find a household container that has a lid, will not leak and is strong enough so that needles cannot cut through it.

Household containers like laundry detergent bottles, coffee cans, cleaning products and shampoo bottles will work.



Avoid water bottles or milk cartons—these are not strong enough.

Step 2: After using Sharps like pen needles, lancets or syringes, put them in this container.

Place the lid back on immediately after.

Step 3: When the container is $\frac{3}{4}$ full, seal the lid with tape.

Label the container as “SHARPS”.

Step 4: Never put the container of sharps with your household trash or recycling.

Find a Sharps drop-off location in your area:

- www.ucrra.org/
- <http://www.dccra.org/sharps.html>
- https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/aids/consumers/prevention/needles_syringes/sharps/
- <https://SafeNeedleDisposal.org>