

Sharps Kiosk Do's and Don'ts

Do

- ♦ Always use caution when handling sharps.
- ♦ Always dispose of sharps in an appropriate container (no loose sharps).
- ♦ Store used sharps properly until disposal
- ♦ Use a one quart sharps container (free containers available at Board of Health office).
- ♦ Dispose of "home" sharps only (those not generated by a person providing a professional service in a private residence).

Don't

- ♦ Place used or unused sharps in your household trash or recycling.
- ♦ Store sharps in glass containers or plastic or paper bags.
- ♦ Dispose of any medications in kiosk (a kiosk for prescriptions is located in the lobby of the Burlington Police Department).
- ♦ Leave sharps containers outside or on top of kiosk (if the kiosk is locked out please alert Fire Department personnel).



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect



Town of Burlington Board of Health

Sharps Disposal Program

Town of Burlington
Board of Health
61 Center Street
Burlington, MA 01803
TEL: 781-270-1955
www.burlington.org

OFFICE HOURS:

Mon, Tues, Thurs— 8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Wednesday—8:30 am to 7:00 pm
Friday—8:30 am to 1:00 pm

The Burlington Sharps Kiosk has been made possible with support from the Burlington Fire Department.





Frequently Asked Questions

What are household sharps?

Household sharps are needles, syringes, lancets, and used epi-pens.

Why can't I throw sharps in the trash anymore?

On July 1, 2012, a statewide ban was placed on the disposal of sharps in the trash. Under the law, residents are not allowed to place used or unused sharps in the trash or recycling.

Why is it important to dispose of used sharps properly? Improper disposal of sharps could cause needle sticks and injury that may result in transmission of disease. Used sharps are a biohazard waste, which means they must be handled and thrown out separately from the household trash.

Where can I safely dispose of my medical sharps? In cooperation with the Fire & Police Departments, the Board of Health maintains a Sharps Disposal Kiosk located in the lobby of the Fire Department at 21 Center Street and the Police Department at 45 Center Street.

When can I access the kiosk? The kiosk is accessible to Burlington residents 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

How do I store my sharps until disposal? Sharps should be placed in puncture resistant quart sized sharps containers.

Can I use a coffee can or detergent bottle to store sharps? It is preferred that residents use a quart size medical sharps container. Other types of containers could cause the kiosk to jam.



What if I have stored up my sharps for a long period of time? If you have numerous sharps containers to dispose of at once, please contact the Board of Health office at 781-270-1956.

Can I dispose of epi-pens in the kiosk? Un-used epi-pens that contain Epinephrine Salts and used epi-pens can be disposed of in the kiosk when placed in a sharps container.

Where can I get a quart sized sharps container? Quart sized sharps containers are available at the Board of Health office free of charge. The Board of Health office is open Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday 8:30 am—4:30 pm, Wednesday 8:30 am—7 pm, and Friday 8:30 am—1 pm. Sharps containers can also be purchased at medical supply stores or online.