

Safe Disposal of Sharps & Prescription Medications

Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations (105 CMR 480) governing medical waste do not allow the disposal of sharps, lancets, and hypodermic needles by throwing them away in the trash and the household garbage.

The best, safest way to dispose of sharps is to place them in a designated sharps container, a container marked with the universal biohazard warning symbol. You may also use sturdy plastic containers such as those used for fabric softener or laundry detergent.

You can turn in your sharps for safe disposal, no questions asked, at the Aldrich School Town Hall Annex—Board of Health Office located at 14 Hill Street or at the Northbridge Senior Center located at 20 Highland Street.



NO LOOSE NEEDLES!

KIOSKS ARE NOT EQUIPPED TO HANDLE LOOSE NEEDLES.

ALL SHARPS MUST BE PLACED IN STURDY, PUNCTURE PROOF CONTAINERS APPROPRIATE TO THE AMOUNT OF SHARPS BEING DISPOSED OF BEFORE DEPOSITING IN KIOSK.

Protect yourself, your community, your environment, and family and friends. The proper disposal of needles and syringes is important!

WHY

- Used sharps can cause injury & spread blood-borne diseases
- Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV can all be transmitted by needle sticks.

PROPER DISPOSAL

- Use a sharps container! A sharps container is a single use container that is filled with used medical needles and disposed of safely.
- If you do not have access to a sharps container, place sharps in a puncture resistant container such as a rigid plastic bottle or coffee can with a secure cap. ***Please use size appropriate for quantity being disposed.***
- Close container between uses & store away from children & pets.
- Deposit full sharps containers at a sharps collection kiosk.

HELPFUL HINTS

DO Put used syringes in a sharps container immediately.

DO Keep needles away from children and pets

DO Bring a sharps container when traveling

DO NOT Throw sharps in the garbage or recycling bin

DO NOT Flush sharps down the toilet or drop into storm drains

DO NOT Clip, bend, or recap needles

DROP OFF SITES – LOCATIONS & HOURS

ALDRICH SCHOOL TOWN HALL ANNEX BOARD OF HEALTH OFFICE

14 HILL STREET

WHITINSVILLE, MA

(508) 234-3272

Hours:

Monday 8:30 AM—7:00 PM

Tuesday thru Thursday 8:30 AM—4:30 PM

Friday 8:30 AM—1:00 PM

NORTHBRIDGE SENIOR CENTER

20 HIGHLAND STREET

WHITINSVILLE, MA

(508) 234-2002

Hours:

Monday thru Thursday 8:30 AM—4:00 PM

Friday 8:30 AM—1:00 PM

SAFE RX DRUG DISPOSAL

Turn in your unused or expired prescription and non-prescription drugs for free, safe disposal, no questions asked, at the prescription drug disposal kiosk located at:

NORTHBRIDGE POLICE STATION

1 HOPE STREET

WHITINSVILLE, MA

(508) 234-6211

Hours: 24 Hours/Day

Free disposal of medications includes:

- ◆ Rx Medications
- ◆ Over-the-Counter Medicines
- ◆ Pet Medicines
- ◆ Pills, capsules, and patches
- ◆ Ointments
- ◆ Vitamins

***Call the Northbridge Police Department at
(508) 234-6211 for more information.***

Proper disposal of medicines protects you and your community. It prevents poisoning of children and pets, deters misuse of mood altering medicine by teens and adults, and keeps medicines from polluting streams and rivers when poured down the drain or flushed down the toilet.

