



Safe Disposal Options for Needles & Syringes

It is important to manage and dispose of needles, lancets, and syringes (sharps) safely to prevent injury and disease transmission from needlesticks. Never leave needles or syringes on streets, in parks, or anywhere else where someone could get injured.



Storage and Disposal of Sharps

- **Disposal through clinics/hospital:** Check with your clinic or pharmacy to see if they have a take-back program for needles and syringes or bring them to The Recycling Zone for free disposal.
- **Mail-back Programs:** Mail-back disposal programs allow home sharps users to mail used sharps to licensed disposal facilities as a safe disposal option (for a fee).
- **Store safely at home:** Purchase a sharps disposal container from a pharmacy or get an empty laundry detergent bottle with a screw-on lid: Label the empty detergent container, "Do Not Recycle: Household Sharps." Dispose of containers when they are half-full in the garbage (not recycling).

*Legal, But Less Safe: When using an empty detergent container
Be sure to label the container "Do Not Recycle: Household Sharps."
Put used needles in point-first into the container.
Dispose of container when it is half-full in the garbage.
Keep container capped to prevent spills.*

Residents of Dakota County can drop off recyclables, household hazardous waste, and sharps at **The Recycling Zone**. Friendly staff helps you unload at the facility.

Located at:
3365 South HWY 149 (Dodd Rd),
Eagan, MN 651-905-4520

Hours

Please visit www.dakotacounty.us for open hours and materials accepted.

The Recycling Zone

Electronics / paint / tires
cans / fluorescent bulbs
fertilizer / lawn mowers
oil filters / pesticides
cleaners / and more...

For more information visit www.pca.state.mn.us/hhw.