

Safe Sharps Information Sheet

WHAT ARE SHARPS?

Sharps is a medical term for a device with sharp points or edges that can cut skin. They include: Needles, syringes, lancets/fingerstick devices, auto injectors (including epinephrine and insulin pens), infusion sets, connection needles /sets

HOW DO I DISPOSE OF SHARPS SAFELY?

If you live in Nova Scotia follow this procedure to dispose of sharps safely:

1. Pick up a free Safe Sharps container at any local pharmacy.
2. Place used sharps into the Safe Sharps container.
3. When the container is full, return the sealed container to your local pharmacy. and pick up a new container if necessary.

Residents living outside of Nova Scotia should contact their local municipality to learn how to dispose of sharps safely in their area.

WHAT DO I DO IF I ENCOUNTER A LITTERED SHARP?

Do not pick up the sharp, take note of the location of the sharp and contact your local waste management facility or local RCMP for instruction.

WHAT DO I DO IF I GET PRICKED BY A SHARP?

1. Allow the wound to bleed freely
2. Wash with soap and water
3. Apply sterile waterproof bandage
4. Seek immediate medical attention by calling your physician or going to the hospital.