

# SHARPS DISPOSAL SAFETY GUIDE

See a syringe on the street?  
Learn how to report it or  
safely dispose of it.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## **What are sharps?**

Devices that have sharp points or edges that can cut skin. Examples include needles & syringes.

## **Why do I need to be careful with used sharps?**

Used sharps can lead to injury and spread disease, including viral hepatitis and HIV.

## **What should I do if I accidentally get stuck by a used sharp?**

Immediately wash the exposed area with soap & water. Seek immediate medical attention: call 833-933-2815.

# Learn about safety precautions before handling sharps.

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**Never throw sharps in the trash**



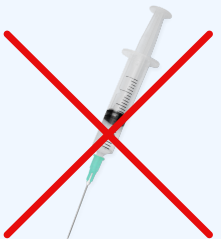
**Never put sharps (or containers) in recycle**



**Never flush sharps down the toilet**



**Never pick up sharps with your bare hands**



**Never re-cap a used needle**



**Keep out of reach of children and pets**

# 3 WAYS TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF USED SHARPS



To report loose sharps call **311** or for sharps found in the Kensington area, contact Cristina Laboy at [Cristina.Laboy@phila.gov](mailto:Cristina.Laboy@phila.gov).



1

## Public Drop Boxes

Find a local drop box at the following SEPTA stations:  
Huntingdon, Allegheny, Somerset SW & SE, Tioga, Frankford Transportation Center; or at  
Emerald Street & Sterner Street  
Prevention Point (Kensington & Monmouth)  
K & Allegheny NE  
K & Allegheny SW  
Front & Huntingdon SW  
Front & Huntingdon SE  
E. Tusculum & Kensington Ave  
Fairhill Square Park  
Hope Park  
McVeigh Park  
Scanlon Park  
Harrowgate Park  
McPherson Square Park

# 3 WAYS TO SAFELY DISPOSE OF USED SHARPS

2

## Sharps Containers

FDA approved sharps containers can be obtained from your doctor, hospital, health insurance company, or local drug store. Prevention Point Philadelphia (215-634-5272) also offers free sharps containers

Place used sharp in the container immediately after use. Follow instructions as labeled on your individual container.

When the container is two-thirds full, bring it to a local program, such as Prevention Point Philadelphia for safe disposal.

3

## Other Suitable Containers

Locate an empty container made of heavy-duty plastic, such as a laundry detergent bottle. Make sure it has a tight fitting cap.

Using rubber tongs, grab the sharp and put it in the container. Make sure the sharp edge or point is facing down.

When the container is threequarters full, close the cap tightly and seal it with duct tape. Label the container "DO NOT RECYCLE".

Throw the sealed container out with regular trash. Do not recycle the container