

Sharps Disposal in Lane County

How to Store Used Sharps

Used sharps should always be stored in a puncture-resistant container that can be sealed. Any container holding sharps is considered full when it is $\frac{3}{4}$ full.

- Sharp container can be purchased at drugstores or pharmacies. CVS, Rite Aid, and Walgreens sell Complete Needle Collection & Disposal Systems which include a sharps container and packaging to mail a full container through USPS to a sharps disposal facility. The cost of shipping is not included.
- You can also store used sharps in a strong, plastic container like a cleaned out bleach bottle or laundry detergent bottle. The container should always be stored upright, be leak resistant, and have a secure leak-resistant lid. Make sure that you label the container “CONTAINS SHARPS”. When the container is full or you are ready to dispose of it, screw the cap on tightly and put tape over the cap.

Sharp container should always be closed when not in use and kept away from children and pets. Sharps should never be recapped. Used sharps should never be disposed of with regular waste or flushed down a toilet or down a sewer drain.

How to Dispose of Sharps

- Ask your pharmacy if they can assist in sharp disposal.
- HIV Alliance & Lane County offer sharp drop-box disposal at multiple locations throughout the Eugene/Springfield area.
- Contact your waste disposal provider to find out if you can dispose of sharps through them.

Sharps can NOT go in with your regular garbage for the landfill, even when contained in a sealed and labeled container.

Resources

<https://safeneedledisposal.org>

<https://preventionlane.org/sharps-disposal-locations-in-lane-county>

<https://hivalliance.org/prevent/syringe-services/>