

**Sanitary Disposal 866-567-8842
(Plymouth-Paterson Area)**

Sanitary Disposal Inc. will take sharps from residential customers if they are contained in rigid 100% plastic containers. These containers can be bought at the drug store. A homemade version can be made with a 100% plastic vitamin bottle or other hard plastic containers. They need to be sprayed red and labeled with the name and address of the disposer. Sanitary Disposal needs to be notified in advance where the containers will be placed for pickup. They will collect them for no additional cost to customers.

**Waste Management 586-7555
2627 S. Ely St (Transfer Station)
1611 S. Washington, Kennewick
(Main Office)**

WM is no longer going to collect sharps from customer houses. WM customers may drop off any kind of sealed sharps containers at the **WM Transfer Station or the main office**. They are also encouraging customers to enroll in the WM Med-Waste Tracker for at home service.

Information on sharps disposal has been posted on the WM website:

<http://www.wmnorthwest.com/kennewick/guidelines/needles.htm>



Benton-Franklin Health District

Environmental Health Division
7102 W Okanogan
Kennewick, WA 99336

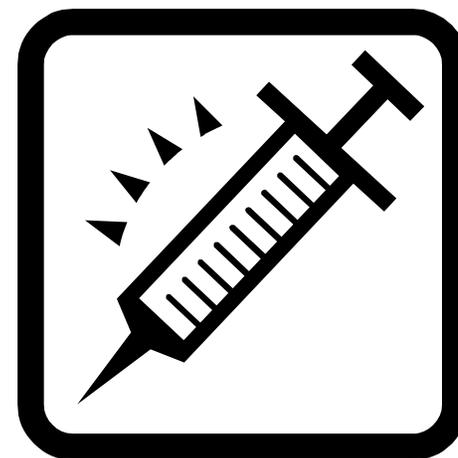
Phone: 509-460-4200
Fax: 509-585-1537

Website: <http://www.bfhd.wa.gov>

The information provided in this document pertains to sharps disposal in Benton and Franklin counties in Washington state. Procedures in other counties and states may be different from those listed here.

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**Sharps Disposal
in Benton and Franklin
Counties**



Recent data from the Coalition for Safe Community Needle Disposal indicates that 13.5 million people in the United States are discarding 7.8 billion used needles outside the traditional healthcare setting. The majority of these patients are managing their own healthcare (e.g. diabetes, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, HIV, Hepatitis C, osteoporosis, infertility) by self-injecting medication at home.

How Can I Safely Dispose of My Sharps Waste?

Many people are required to self-administer medications using syringes with needles. In addition, some diabetics use lancets to poke their fingers in order to analyze their blood. Items such as syringes with needles, lancets, IV needles, and other sharp objects are collectively called “sharps”. Sharps waste may pose a health risk to the public if not properly disposed.

Unfortunately, there is not one single practice or policy that can cover all residential users in Benton and Franklin counties. The main problem has to do with the final destination of the solid waste. Some of the solid waste stays local (Richland), while most of the solid waste in Benton and Franklin counties is transported to landfills in Oregon which has regulations that differ from Washington.

The following applies to **RESIDENTIAL USERS ONLY**. Businesses that generate sharps waste should go to the following Washington State Dept. of Ecology website link below and select “**Biomedical Waste Management**”
<http://apps.ecy.wa.gov/hwsd/>

Businesses should also contact the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries regarding proper handling of sharps and biomedical waste.

Safe Disposal of Sharps

Procedure

The initial “packaging” process of the sharps is fairly consistent amongst all carriers. Obtain an empty one or two-liter pop bottle (or similar puncture-proof container). Carefully put each of your used syringes and lancets into the bottle. Screw on bottle cap. Put tape over the closed bottle cap when the bottle is full. Your syringes and lancets will now be contained in a manner that protects people from needle sticks and is unlikely to break open on its way to the landfill.

A label identifying the waste as used syringes is a good idea, but not a requirement (UNLESS YOU ARE IN THE PLYMOUTH-PATERSON AREA, SEE FOLLOWING PAGES). You can print out a label by going to the following link:

<http://www.bfhd.wa.gov/Publications/brochures/Syringe%20label.pdf>

Disposal

Call your local waste hauler and ask them what their current disposal policy is. If you don't know who your waste hauler is, locate an old billing statement or call your city or county public works department.



Local Waste Haulers and Their Policies

**Basin Disposal AND Ed's Disposal
547-2476
1721 Dietrich Rd, Pasco**

Basin Disposal Inc. (BDI) and Ed's Disposal are no longer accepting sharps placed in the **residential waste containers** even if they are in red sharps containers. However, they will accept and pick up sharps containers from residential customers if they are contained in a sealed, puncture-proof container. They will collect these containers at no additional cost for residential customers on a call in basis. Residential customers must call to schedule a pickup. Customers can also drop off the sharps containers at the BDI transfer station.

**Richland (Horn Rapids) Landfill
942-7498**

3102 Twin Bridges Road, Richland
Place sharps container in regular garbage bin on the day of collection.