

Other Ideas

Return to a Participating Pharmacy

Find a pharmacy participating in a needle return program. Get a commercial “sharps” container, and bring it back to the pharmacist when it is filled with your used syringes.

DO NOT put “sharps” containers into your trash. They will shatter under pressure and expose people to loose syringes.

Return to Your Physician

Ask your physician if he/she will take your used “containerized” syringes for disposal.

Other Options

Bring to the Household Hazardous Waste Collection facility at 925 Industrial Way. You may also give the container to the tipping floor attendant at the transfer station when you bring in your regular garbage.

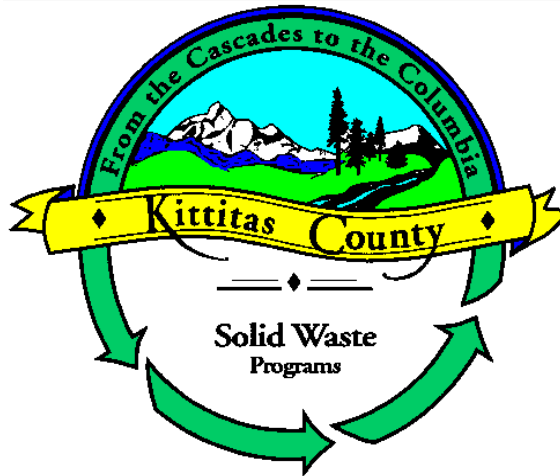


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Syringe Disposal Restrictions

This brochure has outlined some practical ways for you to dispose of your used syringes in a safer manner. However, in certain parts of the state, some of these methods may not be allowed.

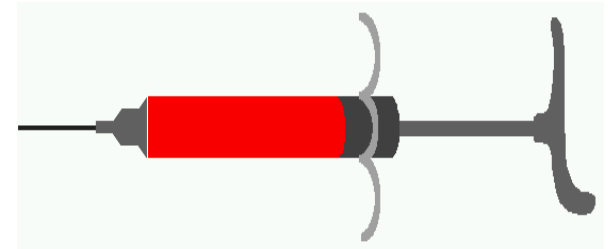
Contact Kittitas County Solid Waste Programs to find out about any syringe disposal restrictions in your area.



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Kittitas County Solid Waste Department
925 Industrial Way
Ellensburg, WA 98926

SYRINGES



SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT

ELLENSBURG (509) 962-7542

The Problem

If you use syringes to control diabetes, allergies, or any other medical symptom, your loose syringes thrown in your trash can hurt people.

In a recent study, 10% of waste collectors in Washington State said that a loose syringe in the trash had stuck them!

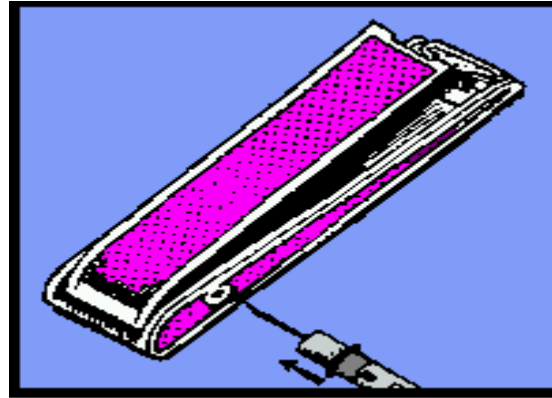


Even though you may feel healthy, your used syringes can pass on germs.

Diseases as serious as Hepatitis B can result from an accidental needle stick!

The Solution: Safer Ways to Dispose of Your Syringes

Needle Clippers



You can buy an inexpensive hand held syringe “needle clipper” from your pharmacist. It clips and holds about 2,000 needles. But remember, cutting or breaking of a needle with anything other than a needle clipper is unsafe.

The clipped syringe can go into your household trash. **Take the needle clipper**, when it’s full, to the Waste Management office, the County Transfer Station, or the County Solid Waste Office.

One Pound Coffee Can – Take the lid off a 1 lb. coffee can. Put needles, syringes and all, in the can. Place the can in your oven at 200 degrees for 1 hour, or until the syringes are melted into the needles. Once cooled take it to the Waste Management office, the County Transfer Station, or the County Solid Waste Office.

Plastic “Pop” Bottles



Sticker - Label an empty two liter “pop” bottle with the warning

“DO NOT RECYCLE”

using either a “pre-made” warning sticker, one that you make, or contact the County Solid Waste Office for a Biohazard Sticker.

Store - Carefully put each of your used syringes into the bottle.

Seal - Screw the cap back on tightly or put tape over the closed bottle cap when the bottle is full. Now your syringes are contained in a container that protects people from needle sticks and is unlikely to break open on its way to the landfill.

Safe Disposal - Dispose of the filled bottle by taking it to the Waste Management office, the County Transfer Station, or the County Solid Waste Office.