

Protect yourself, your community, your environment, and family and friends. The proper disposal of needles and syringes is important!

WHY?

- Used sharps can cause injury & spread blood-borne diseases
- Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV can all be transmitted by needlesticks

PROPER DISPOSAL

- Use **FDA-cleared** sharps containers
- *Please use size appropriate for quantity being disposed but **not more than 3 quarts** for each container*
- When the container is full please make sure the top opening is snapped shut, there is a tab on the lid that gets inserted and you will hear a “click”
- Deposit full sharps container(s), with secured lid at sharps collection kiosk
- If the kiosk door will not open, the kiosk is full. **DO NOT** try and pull the door open as it could damage the kiosk. *Please return another day*
- **DO NOT** put loose needles into the kiosk, use glass containers or bags, or dispose of any medications at the kiosk



SHARPS DROP-OFF SERVICE SUSPENDED

Due to concerns with the COVID-19 virus

In order to limit potential exposure, the Town of Andover will no longer be accepting sharps (needles) at Town Offices and the Public Safety Center. Thank you for cooperation & understanding. FDA Cleared containers may still be purchased at the Public Safety Center located at 32 North Main St.

****KIOSKS ARE NOT EQUIPPED TO HANDLE LOOSE NEEDLES. PLACE ALL SHARPS IN FDA-CLEARED CONTAINER(S) APPROPRIATE TO THE AMOUNT OF SHARPS BEING DISPOSED OF BEFORE DEPOSITING IN KIOSK. NO MORE THAN 3 QUARTS.***

*****FDA-CLEARED SHARPS CONTAINERS MAY BE PURCHASED AT THE CENTER AT PUNCHARD, HEALTH DEPARTMENT OR PUBLIC SAFETY CENTER.***

******DO NOT LEAVE CONTAINERS ON OR AROUND KIOSKS!!!***



**Any questions, please contact
Andover Health Division at
978-623-8640 or at
health@andoverma.gov**

BE INFORMED.

*Resources are just a phone call away.
All calls, information and referrals to
treatment and self-help groups are confidential.*

**Massachusetts Department of Environmental
Protection (DEP)**

617-292-5500, TTY 617-574-6868
www.mass.gov/dep

**Massachusetts Department of Public Health
(DPH)**

617-624-6000, TTY: 617-624-6001
www.mass.gov/dph

DPH Bureau of Environmental Health

617-624-5757, TTY: 617-624-5286
<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/bureau-of-environmental-health>

DPH Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

617-624-5111, TTY: 617-536-5387
www.mass.gov/dph/bsas

DPH Diabetes Prevention and Control Program

617-624-5485, TTY: 617-624-5992
www.mass.gov/dph/diabetes

DPH Office of HIV/AIDS

617-624-5300, TTY: 617-624-5387
www.mass.gov/dph/diabetes

Aids Action Committee

617-437-6200
www.aac.org

HELPFUL HINTS

Be Safe: Reduce your risk of blood-borne diseases like hepatitis and HIV/AIDS

DO: Find out your HIV/viral hepatitis status. Get tested. If you are not infected you can stay that way. If you are, find out how to take care of yourself and avoid passing HIV/viral hepatitis to others

DO: Bring a sharps container when traveling

DO: Put used syringes in sharps container immediately

DO: Use a new needle every time you inject

DO: Clean your sharps with bleach IF you must reuse them

DO: Clean the injection site with soapy water, alcohol swabs or rubbing alcohol

DO NOT: Inject in the same spot over and over again

DO NOT: Throw needles, syringes and sharps containers in the garbage or in recycling bins. See inside brochure for drop-off locations in Andover

DO NOT: Clip, bend or recap needles

NEVER: Flush sharps down the toilet

SAFE SHARPS DISPOSAL

**needles, syringes,
lancets, ...**

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**in cooperation with
Andover Health Division**



**As of July 1, 2012
it is illegal to dispose of
sharps in household
trash.**