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.

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, Hepatitic 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

*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!!!
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

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

Sponsored by
in cooperation with
Andover Health Division

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

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