

Sharps refer to: needles, syringes, lancets, auto injectors, including epinephrine and insulin pens, infusion sets, and connection needles/sets.

## Why Proper Disposal Matters

- Prevents accidental needle sticks.
- Reduces risk of infection like HIV and Hepatitis C.
- Keeps pets, kids, and workers safe.
- Protects our environment and waterways.



## Get in Touch

### Clallam County Public Health

111 E. 3rd St, 1st Floor  
Port Angeles, WA 98362  
360-417-2274

### Harm Reduction Health Center

325 1/2 W. 2nd St.  
Port Angeles, WA 98362  
360-565-2671



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## Sources



**SafeNeedleDisposal.org**

Be sharp about sharps.



Clallam County Public Health

# SAFE SYRINGE DISPOSAL AT HOME



Protect yourself, your family, and your community. Proper syringe disposal prevents injury, illness, and environmental harm.

# At-Home Disposal: Step-by-Step

## 1. USE A SHARPS CONTAINER

- **Best option:** FDA-cleared sharps container.
- **Alternative:** Thick, puncture-resistant plastic (like a laundry detergent bottle or soda bottle) with a tight, screw-on lid.

## 2. LABEL CLEARLY

- Write "**SHARPS – DO NOT RECYCLE**" in permanent marker.

## 3. STORE SAFELY

- Keep out of reach of children, pets, and guests.
- Do **NOT** flush or toss loose needles in trash or recycling.

## 4. DISPOSE PROPERLY

- Tape lid shut when almost full (allow 2-3 inches in-between syringes and lid of container).
- Dispose of the container at the following locations:

### Harm Reduction Health Center (HRHC)

325 1/2 W. 2nd St.  
Port Angeles, WA 98362  
Walk in hours: 1-4 PM  
Tuesdays and Fridays

### Regional Transfer Station

3501 W. 18th St.  
Port Angeles, WA 98363  
Hours: 9 AM - 5 PM  
Mondays through Saturdays

### Household Trash

Don't toss commercial sharps containers in the trash— they can crack and spill syringes. Sealed plastic bottles (like 2-liter soda bottles) hold up better at home and in landfills.

## QUICK TIPS

- Never recap used needles.
- Never leave used syringes in parks, bathrooms, or public spaces.
- Carry a portable sharps container if you are on the go.

### If you find a used syringe in public:

- Do **not** touch it with bare hands.
- Use gloves and tongs or a thick barrier, and pick up each syringe by the plunger.
- Place it, point-first, in a puncture-proof container and close the lid.
- Wash your hands immediately.
- Dispose of it at a local drop-off site or call Clallam County Public Health for guidance.

*Everyone deserves  
safety and dignity.  
Your careful choices  
help protect your loved  
ones, your neighbors,  
and our land.*