

HOW TO SAFELY DISCARD HOME GENERATED SHARPS

- “SHARPS” is a term used to describe any item used to puncture skin. Examples of these are hypodermic needles, suture needles, syringes, carpules, lancets, Endo-files and pre-filled pens.
- Effective September 1, 2008, it is illegal to dispose of SHARPS in the trash or in a landfill.
- When used needles and SHARPS are improperly discarded, they can injure, harm and infect people, pets, wildlife and the environment. Used needles and SHARPS can transmit numerous blood-borne pathogens, including HIV (the virus that causes AIDS) and Hepatitis B and C.
- The SHARPS containers for home generated SHARPS are available, FREE of charge, at all City’s S.A.F.E. collection centers and mobile events.
- City and County of Los Angeles residents can safely and legally dispose of all SHARPS at:
 - **S.A.F.E. Collection Centers** located throughout the City of Los Angeles.
 - **Mobile Collection Events** where a S.A.F.E. Collection Center is not conveniently located.
- The City has expanded the collection of SHARPS to include participating senior citizen facilities, pharmacies and health clinics. This expansion was made available through a State grant from CalRecycle. Not all facilities noted above are currently collecting SHARPS; please contact the City by phone or via the web for a list of participating facilities.

For a drop-off location near you, please call:

1-800-98-TOXIC 3-1-1

Or visit the Bureau of Sanitation’s Website at: www.lacitysan.org

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