

Additional information

Some garbage and recycling collection companies in the Portland metropolitan area provide sharps disposal programs for their customers. Call your hauler to learn whether it provides this service.

Metro Recycling Information Center

503-234-3000

oregonmetro.gov/recycling

Information and referral on household hazardous waste options, including sharps disposal, in the Portland metropolitan area.

Coalition for Safe Community Needle Disposal

800-643-1643

safeneedledisposal.org

Information about disposal laws and links to sharps disposal programs within the U.S. and Canada.

Sharps Compliance Inc.

800-772-5657

sharpsinc.com

Supply and disposal of sharps containers by mail for a fee.

Stericycle

866-783-7422

stericycle.com

Supply and disposal of sharps containers by mail for a fee. Pickup for commercial accounts in Multnomah County only.

Waste Management Inc./WM Healthcare Solutions

866-931-6321

medwaste.wm.com

Supply and disposal of sharps containers by mail for a fee.

About Metro

Metro brings people together from across greater Portland to preserve farms and forests, protect water and wildlife, and create communities people want to call home.

Led by an elected Council, this unique government gives Oregonians a voice in land and transportation, garbage and recycling, parks and nature, the Oregon Zoo, and landmark places – like Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall and Lone Fir cemetery.



oregonmetro.gov

Arts and events
Garbage and recycling
Land and transportation
Oregon Zoo
Parks and nature



Safe disposal of household medical sharps

SHARPS CONTAINER EXCHANGE PROGRAM



Household sharps

Household sharps are medical instruments such as needles, acupuncture needles, IV tubing with needles, scalpel blades, lancets, glass tubes and syringes that can cause injury, spread infection or pollute the environment when used or disposed of improperly.

Throwing sharps in the trash is illegal

You cannot dispose of syringes and other medical sharps in the garbage because it's illegal in Oregon. The law also requires that medical sharps be disposed of in approved sharps containers.

Sharps can harm people, pets and wildlife when discarded improperly

Placing hypodermic needles and other sharps in the trash, for example, exposes garbage haulers and other disposal workers to potential injury.

Safe sharps disposal

Oregon law requires that regulated medical waste be stored and disposed of in red, rigid, leakproof, puncture-resistant containers clearly marked with the biohazard symbol and sealed for safety. They're available at many local pharmacies, medical supply stores and Metro's two household hazardous waste facilities — Metro Central in northwest Portland or Metro South in Oregon City.

The Portland metro area offers various options for safe sharps disposal

Some pharmacies and garbage haulers provide sharps containers and disposal service for a fee. Find several resources listed on the back of this brochure, or call Metro's Recycling Information Center at 503-234-3000 for more information.

Metro also provides an affordable container exchange program for area residents.

Metro's container exchange program

Metro's container exchange program is only for residents and households, not businesses. Group homes, residential care facilities and other commercial or business customers should contact a medical waste management company, their garbage hauler or Metro's Recycling Information Center at 503-234-3000 for sharps disposal options.

Metro area residents can take their sharps containers to the household hazardous waste facility at Metro Central in northwest Portland or Metro South in Oregon City.

Metro Central household hazardous waste facility

Phone: 503-234-3000

Address: 6161 NW 61st Ave., Portland

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday, closed Sunday

Metro South household hazardous waste facility

Phone: 503-234-3000

Address: 2001 Washington St., Oregon City

Hours: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily

If you use sharps at home, follow these easy steps

Metro's program is only for residents and households. If you use sharps at home, follow these three easy steps.

1 Enroll at one of Metro's household hazardous waste facilities for just \$5 per container, and get a new sharps container at no cost each time you submit a full one for proper disposal.

2 Bring your sharps container to one of Metro's hazardous waste facilities — see the addresses on the back of this brochure — for proper disposal. A hazardous waste disposal fee of \$5 for up to 35 gallons also applies.

3 Receive a new empty container.

