

# PERSONAL-USE SHARPS DISPOSAL OPTIONS



## *Applies to individuals | Be Sharp Smart*

Each year, billions of needles and lancets - also called sharps - are used to manage medical conditions at home, and may pose a risk of needle-stick injuries when improperly discarded. To help protect yourself and others, ADEQ recommends the following options:

- 1 Use a Hard Plastic Container for Trash Disposal** *(Note that your local trash collection service provider may have additional disposal guidelines):* If you don't have a sharps box, close container lid tightly, wrap the lid with duct tape, and write, "DO NOT RECYCLE," in large letters.

To maximize space, you can use a needle cutter/destroyer (severs needles from the syringe and costs anywhere from \$5 to \$140)

- 2 Use a Mail-Back Program:** Following are some programs that will send you special containers and packaging, dispose of them properly, and send you a new empty set to refill.

Republic Sharps Service: 855-737-7871  
GRP: 800-207-0976  
MED PRO: 866-402-7499

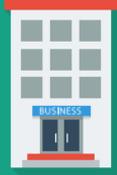
*References to specific commercial products, processes or services, or to any trade, company or corporation are provided to the public for information and convenience purposes only, and do not constitute an endorsement, recommendation or favoring by ADEQ or the State.*



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For more about personal sharps disposal, visit [azdeq.gov/sharps](http://azdeq.gov/sharps).

# SHARPS REQUIREMENTS FOR BUSINESSES



*Applies to any type of business and/or facility that is licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services*

## To meet sharps disposal requirements:

**1 Properly Document Storage and Disposal Information.** Tracking documents must be kept on site for a minimum of one year from disposal date and regularly updated. Typically documented information includes (but is not limited to):

- The name of the person in charge of sharps containers and facility name & address
- Dates of use (i.e., storage start-of-use and date container filled) & of disposal/pick-up
- An ID system, if there are multiple containers in use at one facility

**2 Properly Store Sharps.** Sharps containers must be:



- Located away from food and other waste
- In a locked container marked “**Biohazardous Medical Waste**” with the universal biohazard symbol
- Stored for no more than 90 days when full or when no longer in use

**3 Properly Dispose of Sharps.** Must have a state-registered biohazardous medical waste transporter pick up sharps and take them to a biohazardous medical waste treatment facility.

For more about sharps disposal for businesses, including a list of registered biohazardous medical waste transporters, and a program contact visit [azdeq.gov/sharps](https://azdeq.gov/sharps).

*For translations or other communications aids, please email the Title VI Coordinator at [Bingham.lan@azdeq.gov](mailto:Bingham.lan@azdeq.gov).*

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