

Department of Health

Safe Disposal of Syringes and Lancets

Find and empty a plastic bottle that has a screw-type cap

Examples: bleach, fabric softener, detergent or shampoo bottles. The #1 plastic soda bottle is recommended because it is more puncture-resistance. It is identified with a “1” inside a triangle of arrows on the bottom of the bottle.

Label the bottle

Clearly label the bottle with a warning: “DO NOT RECYCLE.”

Place used syringe/lancet in the bottle

After you use a syringe or lancet, drop it into the bottle. Don’t break off the needles, drop in the whole syringe and recap the bottle.

Leave room at the top

Don’t fill the bottle to the top with needles. Leave a few inches of space at the top.

Close and securely seal the bottle

When you are ready to discard the bottle, tightly close the cap and place heavy tape over the closed cap.

Dispose of the bottle

Discard the bottle in your household trash. Do Not Recycle.

Do not throw syringes or lancets in the trash
unless they are contained in a bottle.

Do not flush syringes or lancets down the toilet.

Do not burn syringes or lancets.