

Environmental Health and Safety

Guidance on the Storage and Disposal of Medical Sharps for Personal Use

Individuals on campus with certain medical conditions may generate medical sharps waste due to their specific medical treatments and/or medications. In order to keep everyone safe, Environmental Health and Safety has created this document as guidance to minimize bloodborne pathogen exposure and other secondary risks.

Collecting Personal Sharps Waste

Prior to generating sharps waste, it is recommended to have a hard-sided container with a lid available. Examples include:

- Medical standard sharps containers
- 2-liter bottles
- coffee creamer or coffee tin containers

It is important to clearly label the container as “Sharps” with a permanent marker or other non-removable label.

Place sharps in the container immediately after use and keep the container closed when not adding sharps.

Disposing of Personal Sharps Waste

Once you have filled the container, safely and securely tighten the lid and dispose of the container in your own personal trash collection at your residence.

Sealing the lid with a heavy duty tape, such as packing tape or duct tape, will add another level of security before disposal.

Additional Resources

Wood County Hospital offers a program that provides free sharps containers to area residents for personal use. More information about the program and how to enroll can be found online or by contacting the hospital’s Environmental Services Director:

Wood County Hospital Environmental Services Department
(419) 354-8923

<https://www.woodcountyhospital.org/about-us/community-programs/>

If you have any questions regarding anything stated in this document, please contact Environmental Health and Safety at envhs@bgsu.edu or 419-372-2171.