



KNOW WHERE TO THROW: SHARPS DISPOSAL



Protect others from injury by properly disposing of sharps

Did you know?

- Medical sharps (e.g., needles, scalpels) must be disposed of in a hard-walled, puncture-resistant container with a tight-fitting lid.
- Used needles/sharps can transmit infectious diseases such as hepatitis B, hepatitis C, or HIV to others through sharps injuries.

How you can help:

- Prevent accidental needlesticks and other sharps injuries by properly disposing of sharps.
- NEVER place used needles or lancets in garbage or recycling containers.
- If you are not sure how to dispose of used sharps (e.g., insulin needles) contact NAU Biosafety at (928) 523-4782 or biosafety@nau.edu.

NON-HAZARDOUS GLASS & PLASTIC

NOT contaminated with biohazards & could puncture a plastic bag:

- Micropipette tips
- Serological pipettes
- Test tubes
- Swabs and sticks
- Razor blades
- Broken glass
- Fragile glass items
- Pasteur pipettes
- Slides and cover slips
- Broken plastic



Use sturdy boxes. Label as "Glass" or "Sharp", depending on material. Thoroughly tape closed and place in trash can.

BIOHAZARDOUS GLASS & PLASTIC

CONTAMINATED with biohazards & could puncture a plastic bag:

- Syringes without needles
- Micropipette tips
- Serological pipettes
- Test tubes
- Swabs and sticks
- Other items that could puncture a biohazard bag



Place items in pipette box/keeper or sturdy cardboard box. Line cardboard box with biohazard bag, and label box as "Glass" with biohazard symbol. Thoroughly tape closed and place in biohazardous waste collection drum.

SHARPS

ALWAYS sharps waste:

- Needles, syringes w/needles, & IV tubing w/needles
- Lancets
- Scalpel blades

Sharps waste if CONTAMINATED with biohazards:

- Razor blades
- Broken glass
- Fragile glass items, Pasteur pipettes, slides and cover slips



When no more than two-thirds full, close lid and place in biohazardous waste collection drum.