

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) 523-7268 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.