

# Help Prevent Needle Stick Injury



**\*\*DO NOT\*\*** put the red commercial “sharps” containers into your household trash. They can shatter in the collection truck and expose people to loose syringes.

Residents of other counties should contact the environmental health division of their local health department for information on syringe disposal restrictions.

## Other Options

**Deliver bottle to Jefferson County Solid Waste Transfer Station.** Do not throw the bottle on the Transfer floor with the other trash. Instead, inform the Transfer Attendant of the sharps and you will be advised where to place it.

**Use a mail-away sharps disposal program.** Approved United States Postal Service sharps containers can be purchased from selected medical waste disposal companies. When you purchase the container you are also paying for its proper disposal. When the sharps container is full, simply mail it back in the box provided. Companies providing this service may be found on line.



## JEFFERSON COUNTY Public Health & Public Works

Jefferson County Public Works  
623 Sheridan Street  
Port Townsend, WA 98368  
Monday – Friday  
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM  
Phone: 360-385-9160  
Fax: 360-385-9234  
[www.jefferson.wa.us](http://www.jefferson.wa.us) then click on “Solid Waste”

Jefferson County Public Health  
Monday-Friday 9:00 AM-4:30 PM  
Phone: 360-385-9400  
Fax: 360-379-4487  
[www.jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/](http://www.jeffersoncountypublichealth.org/)

## JEFFERSON COUNTY

### Public Health & Public Works



## How do I Dispose of My Needles and Syringes?



## Home & Residential Sharps



# A Safer Way to Dispose of Your Syringes and Lancets

1. Use an empty clear plastic soda or cooking oil bottle.
2. Label the bottle with a warning label available for printing on the Jefferson County Public Health website, or write "Syringes: Do Not Recycle"
3. Put a small hole in the neck of the bottle. This allows air to escape so the bottle doesn't burst if compacted in the garbage collection truck.
4. Place your used syringes and lancets into the bottle. Do not fill it more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  full.
5. Cap the bottle and seal the cap with tape.
6. Safely dispose of your bottle: Place bottle at the top of your trash can, just under the lid, on the scheduled day of collection. The bottle should be placed in the trash can as close to the collection time as possible in order to limit exposure time to other people and animals.

**DO NOT  
RECYCLE**



## Remember

- Keep your container out of reach of small children and pets!
- Never flush your syringes down the toilet!
- Do not fill your container to the top. Allow two to three inches in-between the syringes and the neck of the soda bottle.
- Put a lid on it. After you use a syringe or lancet, put it directly into a clear plastic bottle. Then cap the bottle with a tight fitting lid.

