

The Lowell Health Department, Department of Public Works, Senior Center, Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility and Lowell House Inc. are working together to provide Lowell residents with a safe way to dispose of sharps.

SAVE THE DATE

Household Hazardous Waste Day

The collection of syringes, needles and lancets (“sharps”) will be available at Household Hazardous Waste Day (HHWD). Lowell residents may place their used “sharps” in a sharps container or a puncture proof container (such as a liquid detergent or bleach container) with a screw-on lid – label “SHARPS” and drop off at the collection event.

HHWD is held two times each year; Spring and Fall. The location of HHWD is at Cawley Stadium (off Douglas Rd). Call Solid Waste & Recycling Office at **978-674-4309** for dates of these events or check the Solid Waste and Recycling website: www.LowellRecycle.org

The Lowell Health Department does not endorse or recommend any products or services, but makes the information available so that residents can make informed decisions for themselves. The information is believed to be correct at this time and is for informational purposes and not intended as medical advice.

Never Flush Sharps!

For more information about safe disposal of needles, syringes and lancets, please contact the Lowell Health Department
Phone: 978-674-4308

Health Dept. Website:

www.lowellma.gov/depts/health

To receive notification of next HHWD event, join the SW&R email ListServe at:

www.egovlink.com/lowell

From MENU; Select: ‘Subscriptions’

Choose: ‘DPW- SW&R News’



Credits:

This brochure was prepared by the Safe Home Care Project at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. We thank the Lowell Health Department, Department of Public Works, Lowell Senior Center, Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility and Lowell House Inc. for their contributions

Photos courtesy of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (www.fda.gov)

Summer 2012



The City of
LOWELL
Alive. Unique. Inspiring.

Lowell, Massachusetts

Safe Disposal of Needles, Syringes and Lancets (commonly called “sharps”)



Effective July 1, 2012 a statewide ban prohibits the disposal of sharps in household trash

Safe disposal of needles, syringes, and lancets

New Regulation

Effective July 1 2012, a statewide ban prohibits the disposal of needles, syringes and lancets (referred to as “sharps”) in household trash.

Why the ban?

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) took this step to reduce sharps injuries and the incidence of disease, via amendments to its medical waste regulations [105 CMR 480.000: Minimum Requirements for the Management of Medical or Biological Waste (State Sanitary Code Chapter VIII)]. Concern about injuries led to the ban. According to MDPH, worker injuries from sharps in household trash have an ongoing concern for the solid waste industry.

It is illegal for anyone in Massachusetts to discard sharps in household trash



In Person-Disposal

(No Fee)

These 3 collection sites in Lowell will accept your sharps in a sharps container or a puncture proof water resistant container such as a rigid liquid detergent container. Please call and check first.

- The Senior Center
276 Broadway Street
Lowell, MA. 01854
Phone: 978-674-1171



Wednesdays 9am to 11am

- Lowell House Inc.*
Darby Drop-In Center
555 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01854
Phone: 978-459-8656

Tue, Wed & Thursday 4pm to 8pm

Enter thru front door of building

(555 Merrimack Street)

Friday 10am to 2pm

Enter on side of building

(Parking lot)

- Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility.
451 First St. Blvd (Route 110)
{at Dracut Line}
Lowell, MA 01850
Phone 978-674-1623.

Last Saturday of each month

8am till 12Noon

**free sharps disposal containers may be available at Lowell House Inc.*

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day/Event

These collection events are held 2 times each year – Spring and Fall. They are held at Cawley Stadium from 9am until 1pm. If you do not have Sharps disposal containers, you may place your used “sharps” in a puncture-proof container (such as a liquid detergent container) with a screw-on lid -label "SHARPS"-and drop-off at collection event.

Call 978-674-4309 or visit
www.lowellrecycle.org
for the dates of these events

Mail – Back Disposal

(Includes a fee)

When use of a local sharps collection program is not convenient, you may purchase a **postage-paid mail-back kit** to mail your sharps to a medical waste handler for disposal. Walgreens Pharmacy in Lowell located on **54 Plain Street** and **1161 Bridge Street** sells these kits containing a mail-back shipping box that can be returned for disposal via U.S mail.