

Disposal Tips for Home Health Care Wastes



WHAT ARE HOME HEALTH CARE WASTES?

Home health care wastes consist of used sharps (needles and syringes), along with lancets, soiled bandages, disposable sheets, and medical gloves.

WHAT TO DO?

It's important to not place this material in with your recyclables, but to dispose in a safe manner in order to protect people and the environment.

1 Place all sharps in a puncture-resistant container, hard-plastic, or metal container. Examples include empty detergent bottles with a screw-on lid or coffee can.

2 Disinfect your sharps and other home health care wastes by adding a tablespoon of bleach to the container.

3 Close the container with its original lid and seal it with heavy-duty tape, like duct tape or other packaging tape.

4 Place the tightly-sealed container in a paper box and discard with your trash.

5 Place non-sharp waste in a doubled, securely fastened, plastic trash bag and dispose with your household trash.



Other Disposal Options

Contact your doctor or local hospital to inquire if their facility will accept your medical waste that's been properly contained. You can also check with your pharmacy, as some sell special containers for home medical waste.

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