



► In Massachusetts, an estimated 2 millions needles are used each week in residential settings due to chronic diseases and medical conditions



► People who are exposed to sharps face the possibilities of a painful injury and the risk of contracting diseases. All needle stick injuries must be treated as if the needle were infected with disease, leading to the costs and anxieties of medical testing and treatment.



► Up to 800,000 people are injured from improperly handled and discarded sharps every year in the country.

Town of Easton

Residential Sharps Program

Effective July 1, 2012 the State of Massachusetts has banned the disposal of sharps in household trash.

While the law does not require that Towns take an active role in providing a safe and legal method of disposal for their residents, the Town of Easton feels it would be irresponsible to not offer guidance with this new requirement.

As a result of a cooperative effort between those departments who routinely deal with these issues and the populations they effect we are happy to offer the following options.

Annual Collection Day

In cooperation with our Household Hazardous Waste Day vendor we will be able to accept sharps that are secured in capped, puncture resistant plastic containers, such as laundry detergent bottles, on the same day as the annual household hazardous waste day at another location in Town. **No loose sharps will be accepted at this collection.**

Container Purchase and Return Program

Easton residents will be able to purchase a 1.4 quart sharps container from the Town for \$15 and return it for disposal when full or no longer needed. The 1.4 quart container has an estimated capacity of 75 1-CC Syringes, 35 3-CC Syringes or 140 Pen Needles. Containers will be available for purchase at the sites listed below during normal office hours.



Sharps Container Distribution Sites

Easton Fire Department
Administrative Offices
413 Bay Road
508-230-0750
M – TH 8:00AM - 4:00 PM
F 8:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Closed for lunch 12– 1 PM

Easton Board of Health
136 Elm Street
508-230-0620
M - TH 8:30AM -4:30PM
Monday evenings by
appointment
F 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Easton Council On Aging
15 Barrows Street
508-238-3160
M – F 8:00AM - 4:00PM