What to Do with Used Sharps in Illinois

Put used sharps in a strong, plastic container.

Put the plastic container in the household trash—don't recycle!

If a trash collector is reluctant to collect a red sharps container, refer them to your state waste agency.
NO LOOSE SHARPS

Use a Sharps Container

If you do not have one use a suitable empty household container.

In some areas it is illegal to dispose of sharps in the trash. Please follow your community guidelines.

For information about rules and laws in your community, contact the Coalition for Safe Community Needle Disposal at 800.643.1643. For more information on sharps visit fda.gov/safesharpsdisposal.

To be placed on trash bin
IF YOU CANNOT GET AN FDA-CLEARED SHARPS CONTAINER, FOLLOW THESE GUIDELINES:

Use an empty household container with these features:
- Tight-fitting lid that cannot be punctured
- Stays upright
- Made of heavy-duty plastic
- Does not leak

Discarding a household container:
2. Bring container to a sharps disposal program.

DO NOT USE
These containers can break or puncture easily.
- Milk container
- Water bottle
- Glass container
- Soda can

If you cannot find a disposal program, put container in center of full trash bag and discard in regular trash.*

DO NOT put sharps containers in RECYCLING!

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