REMEMBER...

Always label your sharps container.

City of Chandler
Solid Waste Services

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Our mission is to provide safe, cost efficient and environmentally responsible solid waste and recycling programs.

We are here to serve you! Should you have suggestions, comments or need additional information, please call our staff at

480-782-3510

www.chandleraz.gov/recycle

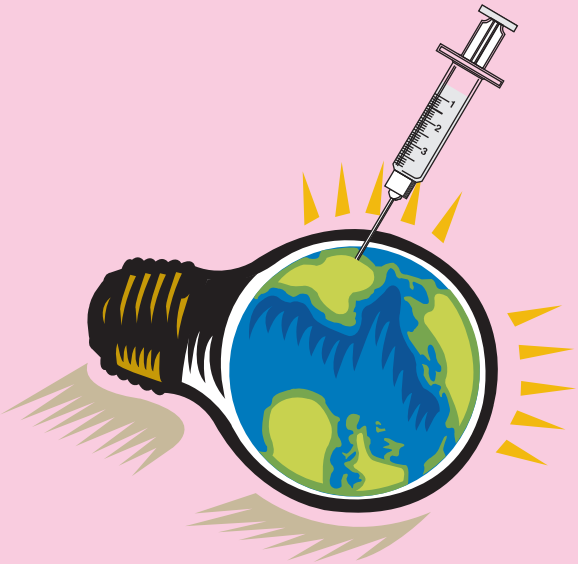
Para información en español,
favor de llamar al 480-782-3510

Chandler + Arizona
Where Values Make The Difference

Printed on Recycled Content Paper

"Getting to the Point"

Your Guide to Becoming Sharp Smart



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Needling the Point with Sharp Tips and Facts

In September 1998, the Environmental Protection Agency issued a Household Waste Management Profile that specifically defines household medical waste as:

> *"...Solely of sharps, usually generated in conjunction with the home treatment of diabetes. Sharps themselves are insulin syringes and lancets; and, are either self-administered or administered by a family member."*

Medical sharps are used in many homes to administer medications, such as allergy shots and insulin; and, to monitor physical states such as blood sugar levels. Sharps may also be used in the home for pet inoculations.

Regardless of the type of home use, we need to use care when disposing of sharps. Concerns related to improper disposal are not so much for the user -- but for others in our community who are at risk, should they come into contact with this hazardous waste.

If jabbed by a used sharp or lancet, an individual could potentially become infected with an illness such as Hepatitis or an illness much more serious.

The Do's...

- DO STORE sharps OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN AND ANIMALS!
- DO LABEL sharps containers so that you and others know it is for disposal, "SHARPS, Properly Dispose AND DO NOT RECYCLE."
- DO place sharps in a RIGID, HARD PLASTIC container with a SCREW-ON or TIGHT FITTING LID. HEAVY-DUTY PLASTIC laundry detergent bottles work best.

- DO choose a container that is PUNCTURE-RESISTANT and LEAK-PROOF. *(Plastic milk jugs are not puncture-resistant)*
- DO place sharps in the container, close the lid tightly and SEAL IT with DUCT TAPE.
- Once sharps are safely and properly contained, the SHARP CONTAINER can be DISPOSED of in your REGULAR TRASH CONTAINER.

- For information on other types of SHARP disposal containers call Solid Waste Services at 480-782-3510.

AND DO NOT's...

- DO NOT place medical sharps, such as disposable hypodermic needles, syringes and lancets, loosely in the trash.
- DO NOT place disposable hypodermic needles, syringes, lancets or ANY other medical-type waste in your blue recycling container.

- DO NOT FLUSH disposable hypodermic needles, syringes, lancets or other medical-type waste down the toilet.