Guidelines for Sharps Disposal in the Residence Halls

• Loose sharps (needle and syringes, lancets) should never be thrown in the trash or recycling bin.

• Sharps should be put into a container that is:
  
  a) opaque
  
  b) highly puncture resistant
  
  c) labeled “DO NOT RECYCLE, MEDICAL SHARPS”

• When full, this container should be securely closed and placed in the trash.

• Examples of appropriate containers include empty detergent or bleach bottles which can be recapped when full.

• Student Health also sells sharps containers specifically for use in homes or dorms. These sharps containers are relatively inexpensive (approx. $2.75) and can be returned to Student Health for disposal.

• Soda cans or bottles should not be used for sharps disposal since cans cannot be securely closed and bottles are translucent, not opaque.

• These guidelines are in compliance with the Virginia Waste Management Board's Regulated Medical Waste Regulations (9 VAC 20-120-130 C2)

• Please contact Biosafety personnel in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety if there are any questions: 982-4911