

# **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**