

Regulation

105CMR 480.000:

Minimum Requirements for the
Management of Medical or
Biological Waste State Code
Chapter VIII

Why the ban?

In 2005, the United States
Environmental Protection
Agency (US EPA) recommended
that people no longer throw
home-generated sharps into
household trash and encouraged
safer alternative disposal
methods.

A decision was made in
Massachusetts to follow the
recommendations of EPA and
impose the ban. This step was
taken to reduce injuries and
incidence of disease.

According to MDPH, worker
injuries from the sharps in
household trash have been an
ongoing concern for the solid
waste industry.

*Effective July 1, 2012, a statewide ban
prohibits the disposal of sharps in
household trash*

Never Flush Sharps!

For more information about safe
disposal of needles, syringes and
lancets, please contact:

Lowell Health Department

978-674-4304

Health Department website

www.lowellma.gov/depts/health

To receive notification of
Household Hazardous Waste Day events,
join the Solid Waste & Recycling
email ListServe at:

www.egovlink.com/lowell

From the MENU select: 'Subscriptions'

Choose: 'DPW-SW&R News'



*Credits: We thank Department of Public Works,
Lowell Senior Center, Lowell Regional Wastewater
Utility and Lowell House, Inc. for their
contributions.*

*Prevent Sharp Attacks logo courtesy of Regional
Recycling and Waste Reduction District, Pulaski
County, Arkansas*



The City of
LOWELL
Alive. Unique. Inspiring.

Lowell, Massachusetts

Safe Disposal of Needles, Syringes and Lancets (commonly called "sharps")



*A statewide ban prohibits the
disposal of sharps in
household trash*

Safe disposal of needles, syringes, and lancets

Household Hazardous Waste Days (HHWD)

Sharps collection will be available twice a year at the HHWD held each Spring and Fall for Lowell residents only. Please place your sharps in a sharps container or in a puncture proof container such as a rigid liquid detergent bottle or bleach bottle.



- Every Spring and Fall at:
Cawley Stadium
438 Douglas Road (off Rogers St.)
Lowell MA, 01852
- Each HHWD will be held on a Saturday (to be determined) from 9:00am-1:00pm.

Call Solid Waste & Recycling Office at (978) 674-4309 for dates of these events or visit the Solid Waste & Recycling website for more information.

www.lowellrecycle.org

In Person-Disposal

These 3 collections sites will accept your sharps in a sharps container or a puncture proof container such as a rigid liquid detergent bottle or bleach bottle. These sites will not accept commercially generated sharps.

- **Lowell Senior Center**
276 Broadway Street
Lowell, MA 01854
Phone: (978) 674-1171
Monday-Friday 6:30am-4:00pm,
Saturday-Sunday 7:00am-12:00pm
- **Lowell Regional Wastewater Utility**
451 First St. Blvd. (Route 110)
{at Dracut Line}
Lowell, MA 01850
Phone: (978) 674-4248
Last Saturday of each month
8:00am-12:00pm
For Lowell residents only
- **Lowell House, Inc.**
555 Merrimack Street
Lowell, MA 01854
Phone: (978) 459-8656
Monday-Thursday 9:00am-9:00pm
Friday 8:00am-4:00pm
Saturday 9:00am-2:00pm

Mail – Back Disposal

(Includes a fee)

When use of a local sharps collection program is not convenient, a **postage-paid mail-back** kit may be purchased. This option conveniently allows you to mail your sharps to a medical waste handler for disposal.

Many local pharmacies sell these kits. Call your local pharmacy for more information on this disposal option.

