

# WHEN YOU DON'T HAVE A CONTAINER

Sharps containers may be obtained from your doctor, hospital, health insurance provider, medical supplier, pharmacist, or online. In some cases, they can be obtained free of charge.

MendoRecycle also offers free sharps containers at its 3200 Taylor Road location in Ukiah while supplies last.

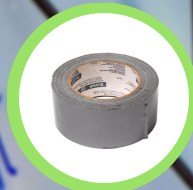
If you are unable to obtain an approved sharps container you may make your own using the following steps:



Place sharps in an empty hard plastic laundry detergent or bleach bottle



**DO NOT** use soft plastic containers like milk jugs, soda bottles, plastic bags, or coffee cans



Screw the lid shut and secure it with strong tape



Clearly label the bottle "SHARPS" with a permanent marker



## ABOUT MENDORECYCLE

The Mendocino Solid Waste Management Authority (MendoRecycle), works with local haulers to ensure trash, recycling and composting services are being provided to the public in a cost-effective and convenient manner.

## MENDORECYCLE OFFERS

Free recycled paint at  
3200 Taylor Drive Ukiah, CA 95482

Free HazMobile events throughout the county where customers may drop off household hazardous waste

Free Reuse Store where customers may pick up recovered household items at  
3200 Taylor Drive Ukiah, CA 95482

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) drop-off at 3200 Taylor Drive Ukiah

## CONTACT INFORMATION

[www.mendorecycle.org](http://www.mendorecycle.org)  
3200 Taylor Drive Ukiah, CA 95482  
[info@mendorecycle.org](mailto:info@mendorecycle.org)  
find us on Facebook  
707-468-9710

# BE SHARP WHEN IT COMES TO SHARPS

how to properly dispose  
of your sharps



# WHAT TO DO WITH USED SHARPS

Proper disposal of sharps can keep you, your family, and community safe.



**DO** keep sharps away from children & pets



**DO** immediately dispose of sharps in a sharps container



**DO** bring full sharps container to a sharps disposal program.

# ABOUT SHARPS

Approximately 7 billion sharps are thrown in the trash every year causing dangers for those who handle waste and recycling.

Improper disposal or mishandling of used sharps can spread life-threatening diseases and cause months of expensive medical tests.

Not only is it vital for the safety of the community to properly dispose of sharps, it is also illegal to throw them in the trash or recycling. It is a public health and environmental issue.



Examples of common sharps are: needles, auto injectors, infusion sets, syringes, lancets, and connection sets.

# WHAT NOT TO DO WITH USED SHARPS

Improperly discarded sharps can injure people and spread disease. You can protect your family and community by following these simple rules.



**DO NOT** throw sharps in the trash



**DO NOT** throw sharps in the recycling



**DO NOT** flush sharps down the toilet

# DISPOSAL OPTIONS

Drop off full sharps containers at MendoRecycle, participating sharps collection centers like a pharmacy, doctor's office, or household hazardous waste center. You may also mail your full sharps containers to participating mail-in collection programs.

# TO AVOID INJURY

- DO NOT** break needles
- DO NOT** recap needles
- DO NOT** remove needle
- DO NOT** force needles into container
- DO NOT** reach into sharps container