Safe Disposal Facilities
24 hour community sharps bins, and needle and syringe vending machines are available in the following locations:

South
• 18 Watchorn Street, Hobart
• Collins Street, Hobart (opposite Sexual Health)
• Clarence Community Health Centre, Rosny

North/North West
• 52 Invermay Road, Launceston
• Council Chambers, Devonport
• Ulverstone Community Health Centre
• Council Chambers, Sheffield

Needle and Syringe Programs (NSP) are located:

South
• Anglicare, 18 Watchorn Street, Hobart
• The Link Youth Health Service, 
  57 Liverpool Street, Hobart
• Anglicare, 2a Terry Street, Glenorchy
• Clarence Community Health Centre, 
  16 Bayfield Street, Rosny

North
• Salvation Army, 54 Cameron Street, Launceston

North West
• Youth and Family Focus, 
  81 Oldaker Street, Devonport
• Burnie Community Health Centre, 
  Jones Street, Burnie

For further information
Alcohol and Drug Service
Department of Health and Human Services
GPO Box 125
Hobart TAS 7001
Phone: 1300 139 641
www.dhhs.tas.gov.au
Sharps disposal

“Sharps” such as needles, syringes, picks, barrels and lancets pose a risk of injury for anyone who may come into contact with them if they are not disposed of correctly.

Safe disposal is necessary to minimise risk and harm to others.

Did you know...

there is a penalty for the unsafe disposal of sharps and can lead to a fine.

Potential impacts of unsafe disposal

If sharps are disposed of incorrectly, the potential impacts include:

• injury and harm to your friends and family;
• injury and harm to other members in the community;
• distress to people who find carelessly disposed of needle(s) or syringe(s) which can lead to complaints;
• reduced community support for initiatives such as the Needle and Syringe Program (NSP);
• local residents become concerned and anxious and make complaints;
• severe stress and anxiety if others sustain a needle stick injury;
• possible exposure to blood borne viruses (i.e. Hepatitis B and C and HIV).

Help keep you and your family safe!

How to dispose of sharps safely

Sharps waste is classified as biohazardous waste and must be carefully handled.

Sharps should always be:

✅ placed in an appropriate sharps disposal container that has rigid walls, is resistant to puncture and is sealed or can be securely closed;
✅ disposed at a sharps collection facility or sharps disposal bin; and
✅ kept out of reach of children.

Containers must be purchased or obtained that are specifically designed for the disposal of sharps, different size containers are available.

Unsafe disposal

Sharps must never be:

❌ placed in anything glass or soft plastic;
❌ placed in your household waste, recycling bins or public garbage bins;
❌ flushed down toilets or drains; or
❌ left on the ground.

Example of unsafe sharps disposal.

Please contact your local Council if you find inappropriately disposed of injecting equipment to arrange for its safe removal.

✅ 24 hour community sharps bins and needle and syringe vending machines like this one, are available in a range of locations (see over for details).