Livestock-related sharps are considered medical waste.

If not disposed of properly, sharps pose a significant risk of injury and illness to farmers, on site workers and waste handlers.

1 STORAGE

- After sharps have been used, immediately place them in a sharps disposal container.
- If an FDA approved container is not available, use a laundry detergent bottle as an alternative.
- Do not use milk jugs or pop bottles.
- Label the container “Sharps - Do not recycle” to warn of hazardous waste inside.

CONTAINERS

All sharps disposal containers should be:

- made of heavy-duty plastic and leak-proof
- closed with a tight-fitting, puncture-resistant lid
- upright and stable during use

2 DISPOSAL

- Dispose of your container when it is 3/4 full.
- Render the contents inactive (e.g. pour bleach into the container before sealing).
- Seal it with duct tape before disposal.
- Do not reuse sharps disposal containers.
- Do not recycle.

Visit SafeNeedleDisposal.org for guidance on how to safely dispose of used sharps in your area.

Sharps disposal rules can vary by state, county, and city.

BEST

- Check to see if your local landfill accepts medical waste.
- Use a mail back system.

GOOD

- Contact your local veterinarian or health department for assistance.

ACCEPTABLE

- Dispose of sharps in household trash using a laundry detergent bottle that is labeled and secured with duct tape.