



**Spotsylvania County  
Home Generated  
Medical Waste**



***TIPS ON HOW  
TO SAFELY  
DISPOSE***

## **Dispose of Your Household Medical Waste Properly**

### **Disposing of Sharps (syringes)**

1. Label a plastic bottle with screw cap (Plastic coffee cans work great)

**CAUTION! SYRINGES - NEEDLES DO NOT RECYCLE!**

2. Clip or re-sheath the needle; place in container.
3. Once full seal the bottle with the original cap and secure with heavy duty (duct or packing) tape.
4. Dispose of the sealed, full container with your household trash.

**DO NOT place the container in the recycling bin.**

### **Disposing of Medications**

The Department recommends using the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency drug take back program or programs offered by local hospitals and clinics. For information on these programs contact your local health care provider, pharmacist, or hospital. As an alternative please follow the following steps as recommended by The American Pharmacists Association.

### **DO NOT FLUSH ANY MEDICATION!**

1. Keep the medicines in their original container. This will help identify the contents if they are accidentally ingested.
2. Cross/cut out your name and prescription number for safety.
3. For pills: add some salt water to start dissolving them. For liquids: add something inedible like cat litter, dirt or ash.
4. Seal the container and secure with duct or packing tape.
5. Put the container in the trash as close to pickup time as possible.
6. DO NOT put in the recycle bin.

### **At Home Healthcare Providers**

Your at home health care provider is required by law to transport and dispose of medical waste generated by their services. These items are considered Regulated Medical Wastes and are not considered at home generated medical wastes.

**For more information call:**

**Phone: 540-507-7300**

**Fax: 540-898-3674**

**E-mail: [recycle@Spotsylvania.va.us](mailto:recycle@Spotsylvania.va.us)**

