# Additional Medical Waste Information

 Soiled bandages, disposable sheets, gloves, IV bags and such should be placed in securely tied plastic bags before you put them in the garbage with your other refuse.

Improperly discarded medical waste can:

- Injure trash haulers and landfill workers
- Contaminate and jeopardize recycling programs
- Can spread disease if reused or shared

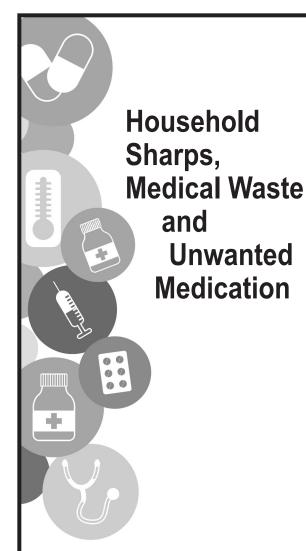
#### For more information:

Broome County Division of Solid Waste Management (607) 778-2250

Broome County Health Department (607) 778-8885

Partial funding by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

Printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper





Broome County
Division of Solid Waste Management
(607) 778-2250

# **How to Safely Dispose of Household Sharps**

### Safe Disposal

- Safe disposal of sharps (needles, syringes, lancets) prevents sharps from being re-used or shared, which can spread disease.
- Safe disposal protects children, pets and workers, who handle trash & recyclables, from injury or illness.
- Safe disposal protects the environment.

### **Storing Used Sharps**

Follow guidelines below when storing sharps until they can safely be disposed of.

#### DO:

- Place used sharps in a sharps container. Containers can be purchased at local drug stores. If you do not have a sharps container, use a plastic bottle that cannot be broken or punctured, such as a detergent bottle. Screw cap on and tape cap. Write "sharps" on the container. Bring to a designated drop-off location.
- Place sharps in container directly after use. Keep container closed and away from children and pets. Store in a secure location.
- When traveling, bring container with you.

#### DON'T:

- Don't put sharp containers in the trash.\*
- **Don't** clip, bend or put the cap back on used sharps.

- **Don't** put sharps or sharp containers in with the recyclables.
- Don't put used sharps in soda cans, milk cartons, glass bottles or containers that can be broken or punctured. Coffee cans are not safe because plastic lids come off easily, or leak, or can be punctured.

\*Used sharps containers can be placed in the trash only if access to a drop-off is not available.

## **Drop-Off Locations for Sharps**

- Wilson Hospital (607) 763-6599 33-57 Harrison St., Johnson City
- Binghamton General Hospital (607) 763-6599 10-42 Mitchell Ave., Binghamton
- **Guthrie Lourdes Hospital** (607) 798-5218 161 Riverside Dr., Binghamton
- Willow Point Nursing Home (607) 763-4400 3700 Old Vestal Rd., Vestal
- Hilltop Campus (607) 798-7818 286 Deyo Hill Rd., Johnson City
- Bridgewater for Rehabilitation (607) 729-9206 and Nursing
   159 Front Street, Binghamton
- Susquehanna Nursing Home (607) 722-7225 282 Riverside Dr., Johnson City
- Ideal Senior Living Center (607) 786-7420 508 High Ave., Endicott
- Good Shepard (607) 724-2477 Fairview Home, Inc. 80 Fairview Ave., Binghamton

# Unwanted Medication Drop-Offs

Residents can drop-off unwanted medications for proper handling to:

Broome County Sheriff's Office
 Administration Lobby
 155 Lt. VanWinkle Dr.,
 Binghamton, NY

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

- Broome County Office Building 60 hawley Street, Binghamton, NY Located in Lobby Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm
- Endicott Police Station
   1101 Park Street, Endicott, NY
   Located in Lobby
   Monday Friday: 8:00 am 5:00 pm

To find other medication drop-off locations, check with your pharmacy.

Unwanted medications should NOT be flushed down the toilet. If you are not able to bring medications to a drop-off, follow the guidelines below:

- Treat medications (liquids and pills) by adding water and then ashes, dirt, cat litter, coffee grounds, or another undesirable substance, to avoid accidental or intentional misuse of drugs.
- Hide all medications in an outer container to prevent discovery and removal from the trash.
- Dispose of drugs as close to your trash collection day as possible.