



Board of Health

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PRESS RELEASE – 6/14/12

DISPOSAL OF MEDICAL SHARPS USED AT HOME

The Sherborn Board of Health wishes to inform the residents of Sherborn that effective July 1, 2012, Massachusetts Department of Public Health regulations [105 CMR 480.000: *Minimum Requirements for the Management of Medical or Biological Waste (State Sanitary Code Chapter VIII)*] will not allow the disposal of medical waste in household trash. This ban includes needles, syringes, and lancets used at home by residents who must self-inject medications as part of their health regimen. These items may no longer be brought to the recycle/transfer station. The Department of Public Health has compiled a list of regional collection sites for disposal of medical waste, and this list is available at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/docs/dph/aids/needles-syringes-disposal.pdf>.

Sherborn residents may also choose to use postage-paid mail back kits in which medical waste is placed in a container and mailed directly to a medical waste handler. Several companies provide this service and can be found online. For any further questions visit the Sherborn Board of Health website at: http://www.sherbornma.org/Pages/SherbornMA_BOH/index or call our office at 508-651-7852.

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