

Day 4-Discarded Needles

Needles and Syringes are used by a diverse range of community members including people with diabetes and other medical conditions, pet owners, and people who use illicit substances.

Steps to Safely Discarding Needles & Syringes

If you come across a needle or syringe in your neighbourhood and feel safe discarding it, below are some steps you can follow:

Step one:

Find a rigid plastic container with a secure lid (e.g. a pop bottle or liquid laundry bottle). Remove the lid and place the container on the ground beside the needle. Do not break or recap the needle.

Step two:

Pick up the needle by the centre of the barrel. Use latex gloves or tongs, if available. Always point the sharp end of the needle down and away from you.

Step three:

Do not hold the container in your hand. Put the needle in the container sharp-end first and secure the lid.

Step four:

Safely dispose of container at your local pharmacy, public health unit or harm reduction site.

Step five:

Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.

What should I do if I have been poked or scratched by a needle?

Don't panic. The risk of infection is low. There are no reports of HIV infection following a needle stick injury in the community. Wash the affected area with soap and water. Do not squeeze.

Seek medical attention immediately. Who do I call if I don't want to pick it up? Call your local public health unit to find out about collection options.



Reporting Discarded Needles & Syringes

There are various programs underway with a variety of agencies to clean up needles and syringes found on the streets. Some of these programs include:

Private Property

Check to see what safe handling practices and equipment you have in your building

Rig Dig

Managed by Lookout Society & runs 7 days a week in North Surrey. Call 604-328-7610 for more information

RainCity Housing

Mobile team working in the Newton area to provide for safe disposal of needles and syringes. Call 778-986-3982 for more information

City of Surrey

To report discarded needles, you can use the My Surrey App or call 604-591-4338

Please note that the options below are guidelines only and we encourage you to use your best judgement in the situation you find yourself in. Different agencies currently work with the City or partner groups to pick up discarded needles, but funding, staffing and times may change or vary from area to area.

There may be a crime associated to discarded needles or syringes therefore you may need to contact the Surrey RCMP non-emergency reports line to report chronic issues in your neighbourhood. You can also visit your Community Police Station and discuss neighbourhood issues with your Community Response Unit or your Block Watch Coordinator.

Contact Surrey RCMP

Report Emergencies: 9-1-1

Report Non-Emergencies: 604-599-0502

Block Watch Coordinator: 604-599-7601



Royal Canadian Mounted Police
Gendarmerie royale du Canada



Crime Free
Multi-Housing



Block Watch®

