

## About the Sites..

In order to make the program run smoothly, it is asked that you follow these guidelines:

- Go to the designated sites near you during the hours listed.
- At the participating site, obtain your first sharps container or exchange your filled red sharps container.
- When making an exchange, always give the filled sharps container to authorized personnel. Never leave a sharps container unattended.
- Always make sure your container is sealed properly. The exchange site has the right to refuse any improperly packaged boxes due to safety concerns for their employees.
- Your cooperation is essential in making this program successful while reducing the potential hazard of improperly disposed needles.

**You may be asked to furnish proof that you require the use of syringes at the exchange site**

For further information please call:

Pinellas County Health Department  
Department of Health (DOH)  
Environmental Health Division  
(727) 507-4336

Pinellas County Solid Waste Operations  
(727) 464-7500

American Diabetes Assoc. of Tampa Bay  
(800) 741-3730

### **SPONSORED BY:**

**All Children's Hospital  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
Bayfront Medical Center  
Morton Plant Hospital  
Mease Hospital  
St. Petersburg General  
Northside Hospital  
Largo Medical Center  
Edward White Hospital  
St. Anthony's Hospital  
Largo Medical Center-Indian Rocks  
Palms of Pasadena Hospital  
Bayfront Medical Center  
Helen Ellis**

**This Program is Supported by Pinellas County Solid Waste Operations and Pinellas County Health Department (DOH)**

## What Should I Do With Used



Board of County Commissioners



# PINELLAS COUNTY

## Household Used Sharps

### Exchange

“Sharps” are defined as items having the potential to puncture or lacerate. These include syringes with attached needles and disposable lancets.

The American Diabetes Association’s statistics show that there are an estimated 2800 insulin-dependent county residents plus seasonal visitors who use sharps. In addition, there are others whose medical condition require the use of injected medication.

At a minimum of one shot per day, ONE MILLION sharps enter the solid waste stream annually in Pinellas County.

If not disposed of properly, sharps can cause many problems:

- They clog sewers and lift stations
- They end up at recycling centers
- They puncture solid waste containers and place workers along collection routes, and at the landfill, at risk of injury and/or disease
- They threaten public safety
- They may be contaminated with hepatitis, HIV (the disease that causes AIDS) and other serious or fatal diseases

# What Can You Do?

The program is a cooperative effort between DOH, the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County, the American Diabetes Association and other sponsors listed. This is a public health and safety program and the cost has been underwritten by the sponsors as a public service.

**THE PROGRAM IS VOLUNTARY AND ALL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE. IT IS FREE OF CHARGE TO ALL RESIDENTS AND VISITORS OF PINELLAS COUNTY**



This program is being provided by the private sector.

All professionals and businesses regulated under state and federal biohazardous waste laws may not participate.



# How Does The Program Work?

Visit one of the participating exchange sites listed. Ask for an approved sharps container and brief instructions on use.

- Take the container to your home and place it out of reach of children.
- As needed, perform your injection and then dispose of the syringe completely intact into the sharps container.

**DO NOT SNAP OFF THE NEEDLE!**  
**DO NOT RECAP THE NEEDLE!**

**When the container is full of discarded syringes, permanently close the top by following the simple directions. Once this procedure has been completed, return the sharps container to one of the participating exchange sites for proper disposal.**

# EXCHANGE SITES

- Helen Ellis Memorial Hospital**  
1395 S Pinellas Avenue, Tarpon Springs (727) 942-5000 x2870  
Inquire at Emergency Room  
Hours: Sun-Sat 8-4:30
- Morton Plant Mease Health Care Dunedin** 601 Main Street Dunedin (727) 734-6141  
Inquire at Emergency Room  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8-4
- Morton Plant Mease Health Care Countryside**  
3231 McMullen Booth Road Safety Harbor (727) 725-6100  
Inquire at Emergency Room  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8-4
- Morton Plant Mease Health Care Clearwater**  
300 Pinellas Street, Clearwater (727) 461-8552  
Inquire at Emergency Room  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8-4
- Largo Medical Center**  
201 14th St SW, Largo (727) 588-5200  
Inquire at Reception desk  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-2:30
- Family Care at Walsingham**  
13540 Walsingham Rd, Largo (727) 593-5492  
Inquire at Reception Room  
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-4
- Largo Medical Center-Indian Rocks**  
2025 Indian Rocks Road, Largo (727) 581-9474  
Inquire at Emergency Room  
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-4
- Northside Medical Center**  
6000 49th Street North St. Petersburg (727) 521-4411  
Inquire at information desk  
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-4
- St. Petersburg Medical Center**  
6500 38th Avenue North St. Petersburg (727) 384-1414  
Inquire at information desk  
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-5



- St. Anthony's Hospital**  
1200 7th Avenue North St. Petersburg (727) 825-1272  
Inquire at Emergency Room  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8-4
- Edward White Hospital**  
2323 9th Avenue North St. Petersburg (727) 328-6101  
Inquire at information desk  
Hours: Mon-Fri 10-7
- Bayfront Medical Center**  
701 6th Street South, St. Petersburg (727) 893-6155  
Inquire at information desk  
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-3
- Palms of Pasadena Hospital**  
1501 Pasadena Avenue South St. Petersburg (727) 381-1000 x7657  
Inquire at information desk  
Hours: Mon-Fri 9-3
- All Children's Hospital**  
501 6th Ave. S., St. Petersburg (727) 767-4720, (727) 767-4250  
Inquire at Emergency Room  
Hours: Sun-Sat 8-5