

Needle Safety It's Everyone's Concern

If you find a used needle, follow the steps below for safe pick up and disposal.

- Do **not** recap the needle.



- Wear garden, work or medical gloves.
- Use tweezers, pliers or tongs to pick up by the end that is not the sharp end. Keep away from your body.



- Place the needle, sharp end first, into a hard container (e.g. liquid laundry detergent or bleach container).

- Call 655-4664 if you do not have these clean-up items.**

- Fill a container no more than 3/4 full.
- Put the container lid on tightly and tape it.
- Wash your hands with soap and water.
- Store the container in a safe place until you can dispose of it.

- Do not place needles in city garbage.
- Place in a needle drop box in your community. Call **655-4444** for needle drop locations.
- Call the Saskatoon Fire & Protective Services at **975-3030** if you have found a needle on public property and cannot follow the steps listed.



**For more information
on Needle Safety &
Disposal, call
655-4444**

What should you tell children about finding needles?

Educate your children.

Tell them to:

- Never touch or pick up needles.
- Always call an adult.



Are used needles dangerous?

Needle poke injuries are:

- a public health concern
- low risk for spreading hepatitis or HIV infection.

There have been no reported hepatitis or HIV infections from a community needle poke injury in Saskatoon Health Region.

What should you do if you poke yourself with a needle?

- Encourage the wound to bleed by gently squeezing it.
- Wash all exposed areas with soap and water.
- Report the needle poke:
 - Saskatoon Health Region employees call **655-0820** if the injury occurred at work.
 - For all other needle poke injuries call Public Health Services at **655-4620**.
- Go immediately to an Emergency Room for care. Tell them you have been poked by a needle.

