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## **P R E S S R E L E A S E**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Free “Sharps” Containers and Disposal Offered by County**

Most people associate needles with a hospital or clinic setting, but many of us now use “sharps” – needles, syringes with needles, and lancets like the kind used to test insulin levels – at home. Because of their potential to accidentally puncture a family member, pet, or sanitation worker, sharps should always be safely stored and never thrown in trash or recycling bins.

It’s best to use a storage container specifically designed for sharps. The County offers free containers at its Public Health clinics and laboratories. Just stop by during normal business hours to pick one up. Once filled, you simply return the container back to the clinic or lab. A brochure for the free program is available for [download here](#) or by calling the County’s Resource Recovery and Waste Management Division at 882-3615.

In most parts of the county, you can also obtain a free container from your trash hauler. These types of containers are designed to be mailed directly to a disposal facility and come with pre-addressed, postage-paid labels. Please call your trash hauler for more details, or visit the County’s waste reduction website, [www.LessIsMore.org](http://www.LessIsMore.org).

Last year, 3,494 collection containers were distributed through the County’s program.

Please remember to store sharps containers out of reach of children, and make sure not to overfill the containers.

Find more information about the County’s Home-Generated Sharps Collection Program on [LessIsMore.org](http://LessIsMore.org), the region’s ultimate waste reduction and recycling website. A list of drop-off sites is available in the “Where to Go” section at the bottom of the [Sharps page](#). You can also call our staff at 882-3615.

[Images included on following pages.]



## Hazardous Waste Warning

Wastes in this section are dangerous to you and the environment. Handle them carefully and dispose of them properly.

Legally, households may not transport more than 15 gallons of wet or 125 pounds of dry hazardous materials. [Read about the regulation.](#)

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### Needles and Syringes (a.k.a "Sharps")

Ouch! No one wants to get stuck with your old sharps. Keep all sharps and disposal containers out of reach of children. Do not attempt to bend or break any needle or syringe, and do not try to replace the cap on needles.

### NEW! Free Mail-Back Containers Offered by MarBorg, Waste Management, & E.J. Harrison!

For residential customers living in the unincorporated area of Santa Barbara County and in the cities of Buellton, Carpinteria,

### Related Events

Santa Ynez Valley Hazardous Waste Collection Event  
April 10, 2016

### Related Materials

- Hazardous Waste Haulers
- Medications
- Product Stewardship
- Sharps

*LessIsMore.org Sharps Disposal page*



Safely dispose of your  
home generated sharps.

# BE SHARP!

PROVIDED BY YOUR RESOURCE RECOVERY & WASTE MANAGEMENT DIVISION OF THE COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT



# ¡SEA AFILADO!



Disponga a los afilados del hogar  
seguramente y en una manera legitimo

*Cover of the County's Home-Generated Sharps Disposal Brochure*

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