NEEDLES & SHARPS

sharps
bin for community sharps waste

Community sharps like needles, syringes, finger prickers (lancets), pen needles and other sharps waste from home cannot be put into any rubbish or recycling bins. These should be disposed of safely in community sharp bins.

needles have their own bin

Many people rely on using needles and syringes to maintain their health or that of a family member.

There are more than 1900 people with diabetes in the Kempsey Shire Council area, for example, who generate more than 70,000 sharps each year.

Other sources of community-generated sharps include people on home dialysis or home chemotherapy, people who inject steroids, people who inject prescription or other drugs and people who inject their animals.

Kempsey Shire Council does not condone illegal drug use but aims to reduce associated harm to the individual and the community by ensuring any sharps are disposed of correctly.

what CAN go in the sharps bin?

✓ needles
✓ pen needles
✓ syringes
✓ finger prickers (lancets)
✓ other health-related sharps items

what CAN'T go in the sharps bin?

✗ NO recycling
✗ NO garden or green waste
✗ NO general rubbish
✗ NO commercial sharps waste
✗ NO other items of any kind

where are the sharps bins?

All public hospitals and community health centres across NSW are obliged to have community sharps bins.

Community sharps bins are not for use by businesses. All businesses that generate sharps waste are required to arrange a contractor to dispose of that waste.

When you are out, dispose of your used sharps in the small metal sharps bins located inside many public toilets within Kempsey Shire.

At home store your used sharps in a plastic puncture-proof container with a lid, or a yellow sharps container, and then take the filled containers to one of your local community sharps bins.

Kempsey Shire has big yellow community sharps bins at these locations:

crescent head
· Rankine Street Carpark (corner Scott and May streets)
· Council Waste Management Centre (Crescent Head Road)

hat head
· Surf Club (corner Bay and Myrtle streets)

south west rocks
· Council Carpark (corner Paragon Ave and Gregory Street, near public toilet)
· Community Health Centre (9 Steve Eagleton Drive)

Found a syringe? Call 1800 633 353 or 6566 3200

kempsey
· Kempsey District Hospital (River Street, at end of old hospital building)
· Elbow Street (near public toilet block)
· Stuart Street Carpark (grassed area near access ramp into East West Plaza)
· Community Health Centre (corner Polwood and Tozer streets)

stuarts point
· Stuarts Point Community Hall/Library (Marine Parade)

If you find a syringe in a public place, call the Needle Clean Up Hotline on 1800 633 353 or Kempsey Council on 6566 3200.