



# TOWN OF TEWKSBURY

BOARD OF HEALTH  
@ THE SENIOR CENTER  
175 CHANDLER STREET  
TEWKSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS 01876

Lou-Ann C. Clement, C.H.O.  
Director of Public Health

(978) 640-4470  
Fax: (978) 640-4472

## TEWKSBURY BOARD OF HEALTH POLICY ON PUBLIC DISPOSAL FOR HOUSEHOLD SHARPS DISPOSAL

### Purpose:

To decrease the amount of in home medical syringes and sharps containers from the trash stream.

### Policy:

Under the following procedures, residents of Tewksbury will be able to dispose of their sharps containers safely at the Tewksbury Health and Fire Departments (Central Station only).

### Procedure:

1. Sharps will only be accepted if they are in rigid, leak proof, shatterproof, and puncture-resistant containers such as a sharps container.
2. The Tewksbury Health Department and Tewksbury Fire Department will only accept sharps from in-home medical use and will not accept sharps from Doctor's offices or other medical facilities during normal business hours. Normal operating hours for the Fire Department are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and the Board of Health are hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM and 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM.
3. The resident is responsible for transporting the sharps container(s) to the Board of Health 999 Whipple Road Tewksbury MA and Central Fire Station 21 Town Hall Ave Tewksbury MA.
4. The Tewksbury Board of Health and Fire Department will only accept containers containing sharps; other medical waste such as dressings will NOT be accepted.
5. There is a disposal fee per approved container. The fee covers the cost disposal and shall be subject to the Board of Health annual fee review.
6. The sharps container shall be placed in the receptacle provided by an approved licensed medical disposal company. Receptacles are located in the Fire Department business office and the Board of Health office.
7. As soon as the sharps container has been placed in the receptacle, it becomes a regulated special-solid waste and becomes the possession of the Town of Tewksbury.
8. The Tewksbury Board of Health and Fire Department then become the point of generation of this waste.
9. The Tewksbury Board of Health and Fire Department will maintain a written agreement with an approved licensed medical disposal company for a regularly scheduled receptacle waste pick up.
10. The waste will be treated in accordance with the Department of Public Health regulations 105 CMR 480.000: Storage and Disposal of Infectious and Physically Dangerous Medical or Biological Waste.
11. The licensed medical disposal company will be responsible for providing report (manifest) to the Fire Department describing the amount (pounds) of sharps collected under this policy. As needed other reports may be requested by the Health and Fire Department.
12. The Tewksbury Board of Health and Fire Department will be responsible for maintaining records of pick up and disposal.

Board of Health Hours: 7:30 AM to 4:30 PM

Director's Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 AM to 9:30 AM and 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM  
Sanitarian Office Hours: Monday – Friday 7:30 AM to 9:00 AM and 3:00 to 4:30 PM

13. Sharps disposal containers accepted have a maximum size of 2 gallons.
14. Fees are subject to Tewksbury Board of Health Annual review.

2011 Fees:

Maximum Fee:	\$15.00
Two (2) Gallon container fee:	\$15.00
One (1) Gallon container fee:	\$ 8.00
Thirty Two (32) quart and under fee:	\$ 5.00
Minimum fee:	\$ 5.00

15. Cash payments are not accepted; please make checks or money orders payable to the Town of Tewksbury.