

Sharps Disposal Mail Back Kit FAQs



Reference this list of FAQs to better understand our sharps offerings and processes.

1. What is sharps waste?

Sharps are a subset of medical waste and include any device, object or sharp used to puncture or lacerate the skin to treat a medical condition.

2. Why is it important to properly dispose of sharps and needles?

Proper disposal of sharps reduces the risk of needlestick injuries for your family, employees and community. Medical waste can also transmit disease if not properly handled. Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kits are a convenient, all-inclusive solution to safely and securely dispose of sharps and needles.

3. What materials can be disposed of in the Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit?

Any contaminated sharp instrument can be disposed of in the container.

Examples of acceptable items include:

- Needles and syringes
- Razor blades
- Orthodontic wires
- Scalpel blades and lancets
- Glass pipettes, slides and tubes
- Broken, contaminated glass
- Staples and wires (cardio-catheter wires)
- Disposable suture sets and biopsy forceps
- Electrocautery tips

Examples of unacceptable items include:

- Blood or other bodily fluid
- Medication/pharmaceutical waste
- Canisters, inhalers or aerosols
- Hazardous or chemical waste
- Soft waste (e.g., gloves, gauze, tubing, etc.)
- Fixatives and preservatives

4. What do the Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kits include?

Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kits are all inclusive and provide all necessary components required for the collection, transportation and disposal of used medical sharps.

Each kit includes the following:

- Detailed instructions for safe sharps disposal
- Postal authorized return box and liner
- Sharps disposal container
- Pre-paid return postage
- Safe and proper disposal
- Disposal tracking documents

5. Are there any additional costs after the Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit is purchased?

There are no additional costs for tax or postage after purchase. All kits are an all-inclusive solution for sharps disposal.

6. What kit sizes are available?

1.4-Quart Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit

- 3.75" x 3.5" x 8"
- Holds about 42 3-cc syringes

1-Gallon Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit

- 9" x 5.5" x 8.5"
- Holds about 125 3-cc syringes

Two 1-Gallon Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kits

- Two 1-gallon containers, 9" x 5.5" x 8.5"
- Holds about 250 3-cc syringes

Five 1.4-Quart Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kits

- Five 1.4-quart containers, 3.75" x 3.5" x 8"
- Holds about 210 3-cc syringes



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7. How can I order a Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit?

Visit RepublicSharps.com to place your order or call 855.REPSVS1 (855.737.7871).

8. When will my order ship?

Your order will be shipped to the address you provided in 1 to 3 business days from the date your order was placed. A shipment tracking number will be sent to the email address you provided when you placed your order.

Once your order has shipped, your tracking number can also be viewed by logging into your Republic Sharps customer account, contacting our Customer Service department at 855.REPSVS1 (855.737.7871), or by sending an email to Sharps@RepublicServices.com.

9. Can I cancel an order after I have checked out?

Once you have completed the checkout process and your item has shipped, all orders are final. If your order has not shipped, please contact our Customer Service department for assistance with your request at 855.REPSVS1 (855.737.7871) or by sending an email to Sharps@RepublicServices.com.

Unfortunately, once an order has shipped, returns cannot be accepted due to the hazardous nature of the waste. This ensures you always receive a brand-new kit when you order from Republic Services.

10. How do I check if my order has shipped?

You can view the status of your order at any time by logging into your Republic Sharps customer account, contacting our Customer Service department at 855.REPSVS1 (855.737.7871), or by sending an email to Sharps@RepublicServices.com.

11. How do I track my order?

A shipment tracking number will be sent to the email address you provided when you placed your order. Once your order has shipped, your tracking number can also be viewed by logging into your Republic Sharps customer account, contacting our Customer Service department at 855.REPSVS1 (855.737.7871), or by sending an email to Sharps@RepublicServices.com.

12. Do I need to be present when my order arrives? Does the order delivery require a signature?

You do not need to be present to receive your Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit. The delivery does not require a signature.

13. What if an item is missing from my order or the kit is damaged when it arrives?

If your package has been delivered and any of the included parts are missing or damaged, please contact our Customer Service at 855.REPSVS1 (855.737.7871) or by sending an email to Sharps@RepublicServices.com for assistance.

14. What do I do if my order never arrived?

Please make sure that all the items in your order have been shipped by using the shipment tracking number provided. Using the tracking number, please check with the shipper to confirm that your package was delivered. If your status shows as "delivered," please contact Customer Service at 855.REPSVS1 (855.737.7871) or by sending an email to Sharps@RepublicServices.com for assistance.



We'll handle it from here.®

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15. Where do I keep the Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit after I receive it?

Place the container in a convenient and safe location. Do not throw away the packaging included with the kit. It is important to save your return shipping box and to not throw away any of the contents. You must return your container in the enclosed shipping box provided.

16. What do I do with the paperwork that came with my kit?

The kits are shipped with individual destruction manifests. To return the filled container, you must complete the customer section of the form, sign it, retain the customer copy and seal the remaining copies in the plastic pouch located on the outside of the shipping box. When your sharps waste has been destroyed, you will receive a final copy of the manifest for your records, showing that the sharps waste was properly destroyed.

17. How do I fill the sharps kit?

The Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit can be filled to the designated fill line indicated on the label on the outside of the container. Do not, under any circumstances, overfill the container. You must be able to securely close the lid of the container prior to shipment.

18. Can I put blood or fluid in the sharps kit?

Blood or other bodily fluids cannot be placed in the container. No more than 50ml of residual fluids can be put into the Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit, which allows for the minimal amount of liquid that may remain in used syringes. The United States Postal Service will only accept the container if it is used

according to their strict specifications, and you will be held responsible for any leakage due to filling the container with unacceptable materials. These restrictions are in place to ensure materials can be handled safely.

19. Do I need to put the caps back on the needles?

You do not need to put the caps back on the needles. Doing so could potentially result in inadvertent needle sticks. Simply place the used needles directly into the sharps container.

20. How long do I have to return the Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit?

There is no time limit on how long you can keep your container. You may fill the container as needed and return for disposal using the prepaid USPS mailing label and shipping box provided at any time.

21. Can I place my own sharps container into the Republic Services Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kit?

No, only the Republic Services' sharps container originally sent to you has been approved by the United States Postal Service to be shipped in the box provided.



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22. Can I place the Republic Services sharps container in my own packaging to return for disposal?

No, your own packaging cannot be used. The United States Postal Service strictly regulates the mailing of regulated medical waste and sharps. If you have lost or misplaced your shipping box, please contact our Customer Service department to request a replacement. Please do not mail your sharps container in a box not provided by Republic Services.

23. Can I put the manifest tracking document inside the sharps container?

Do not place the manifest tracking document inside the sharps container or inside the shipping box. The United States Postal Service must be able to clearly see the manifest document. Please place the completed document inside of the pouch located on the outside of the shipping box. The box is never opened once you seal it, so the manifest would be destroyed if placed inside the box.

24. How long must my manifest tracking documents be maintained?

Currently, there has been no record retention limit established for generators of home medical waste. However, regulations are subject to change, so it is important to reference the Regulations tab on the Republic Sharps website at [RepublicSharps.com](https://www.RepublicSharps.com).

25. What if my manifest papers are lost, misplaced or missing?

Please contact our Customer Service department at 855.REPSVS1 (855.737.7871) or by sending an email to Sharps@RepublicServices.com.

26. Are the Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kits approved by the USPS and safe to send in the mail?

Our kits have been tested for safety and have been approved by the United States Postal Service for use in most states.

27. Is Republic Services sharps disposal service available in all 50 states?

Our Sharps Disposal Mail-Back Kits are currently available to customers receiving shipments in any of the 48 contiguous states including Washington D.C. (not available in Alaska, Hawaii or Puerto Rico).

28. Does Republic Services ship to countries outside the United States?

No, we cannot ship kits outside of the U.S.

29. Are there any other regulatory requirements I should be aware of?

Please refer to the Regulations tab on the Republic Sharps website at [RepublicSharps.com](https://www.RepublicSharps.com).



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