Protect Your Trash Collector,
Dispose of Needles Properly!

Did you know?
How you discard a needle has a big impact on trash collectors and their families. Each accidental needlestick requires HIV and hepatitis testing - not to mention the stress of waiting for test results.

Safe Needle Disposal Is Easy

Use hard-wall containers with lids.
• Laundry detergent and bleach bottles, peanut butter jars, etc.

The thicker the wall, the safer the container.
• Avoid thin plastics, like soda bottles - they are easily pierced

Do not use glass containers.
• These can break and cause a greater hazard

Never throw loose needles in the garbage
• Protruding or falling needles endanger trash collectors

Always place needles in a puncture-resistant container with a tight lid before disposal.

DENR Division of Waste Management

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