

Never place containers with used needles or sharps in a recycling container.

Check with your healthcare provider

Some clinics and hospitals have collection programs for needles and sharps. Check with them first.

Destroy at home

A destruction device that incinerates needles and lancets can be used at home to destroy immediately after use. Previously used only in healthcare facilities, these devices are now available in smaller, less expensive models for home use.

Once a needle or lancet is destroyed by heat in a destruction device, the remaining syringe and melted metal can be safely disposed of in the garbage (not the recycling container).

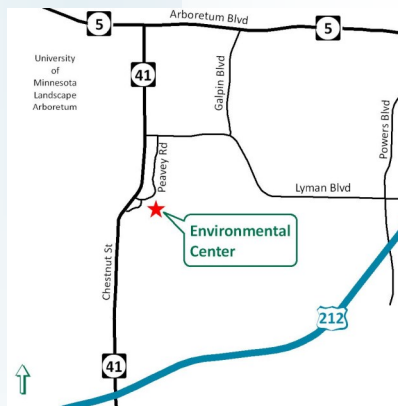
A needle cutter that automatically stores the cut needles is also useful while away from home when a disposal container is not available. A needle clipper that stores clipped needles should be disposed of at a sharps collection site or through a mail-back program.

Mail-back programs

- Stericycle, Inc., 651-644-1480 or 1-800-355-8773
- Sharps, Inc., 1-800-772-5657
- GRP Medical Services, 1-800-207-0976

Carver County Environmental Center  
116 Peavey Circle  
Chaska, MN 55318

Phone: 952-361-1835  
environment@co.carver.mn.us



**Summer Hours: April through November**

Wednesdays: 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Thursdays: 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
Fridays: 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

**Winter Hours: December through March**

Wednesdays: 12:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
Thursdays: 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Saturdays: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Closed on observed holidays.  
Visit our website for our holiday schedule

[Recyclecarver.org](http://Recyclecarver.org)

## Disposal Options for Medical Sharps & Needles in Carver County





The Carver County Environmental Center accepts sharps from households only\*

Carver County believes it's important to manage and dispose of sharps (needles, lancets, and syringes) safely to prevent injury and disease transmission from needle-sticks.

Sharps from households are accepted at the Environmental Center in Chaska.

\* Carver County does not accept needles and sharps from businesses – which includes healthcare facilities, pharmacies, pharmaceutical representatives, doctors' offices and veterinary clinics.

\*Carver County does not accept medicines or unused medicines contained in sharps (epi-pens) at the Environmental Center.

## Follow These Steps When Dropping Off Sharps

### 1. Prepare your needles and sharps

- Store in an approved, puncture-resistant, plastic container with a screw-on lid.
- Only approved sharps containers specifically designed to hold sharps will be accepted.
- Sharps containers are available at clinics, stores, pharmacies, and at the Environmental Center.
- Put used needles into the container point-first. Note: Do not put unused medicines contained in sharps (epi-pens) in your container.
- Only fill your container 3/4 full with needles and sharps.
- Keep the lid closed and secured on the container to prevent spills.



## Follow These Steps When Dropping Off Sharps

### 2. Remember to bring identification



Proof of residency, such as a driver's license, is required.

### 3. Declare sharps/needles

Upon arriving and after showing staff your identification, please let staff know that you have a container of sharps to drop off

### 4. Dispose of needles and sharps at the Environmental Center

Drive up to the checkpoint and staff will bring you to the needles and sharps drop-off area. Your sharps must be in a proper container, and you will be responsible for placing your container into the drop-off bin.

