

SCHOOL HEALTH: DISPOSING OF A NEEDLE OR SYRINGE (CALGARY HEALTH REGION)

If You Find A Needle...

Be careful to prevent needle stick injuries.

- ◆ Only handle or pick up needles if necessary.
- ◆ Warn children never to touch needles.

If You Pick Up a Needle:

1. Pick it up with tweezers or pliers or wear heavy gloves.
2. Hold the needle tip pointed away from your body.
3. Put it in a plastic bleach bottle (empty) or a two litre plastic pop bottle with lid, and identification labels removed.
4. Re-label container "Sharps: and tape lid shut.
5. May be put with general garbage on day of pick up.

Call the Calgary Health Region Communicable Disease Unit for information or advice on disposing of the needle or syringe.

If your work requires handling of garbage:

- ◆ Be extremely careful, as you do not know what it may contain.
- ◆ Always wear heavy gloves when handling garbage.
- ◆ Use a broom to pack down if packing is requires.
- ◆ Hold garbage bags away from your body.