

What to do if you find a sharp

While the risk of acquiring a serious infection as a result of an accidental injury from a community sharp is low, the anxiety resulting from such an injury can be significant.

- Do NOT attempt to recap the needle.
- Find an Australian Standard sharps container or a rigid-walled, puncture-resistant, sealable container.
- Find and put on latex/rubber gloves if possible.
- Bring the suitable container to the needle/syringe.
- Place the container on the ground beside the needle/syringe.
- Do not hold the container upright in your hands as you are disposing of the needle/syringe.
- Place the needle/syringe in the container, sharp end first.
- Securely place the lid on the container, holding the container at the top.
- Remove gloves (if appropriate) and wash hands with running water and soap.
- Dispose of the sharps container in your nearest community sharps disposal bin. Although not the recommended option, the community may dispose of the sharps container or suitable sealed container into a general household rubbish bin.

Other items that have come into contact with blood should be disposed of into a sharps container or placed into double plastic bags and then into the general household rubbish bin.

Parents should advise children to inform an adult if they find unsafely disposed of needles/syringes and not to touch the needle/syringe.

If you have any concerns or do not feel comfortable in safely disposing of the inappropriately discarded sharp, please contact:

- Clean Needle Helpline (1800 NEEDLE) Ph: 1800 633 353 or
- Logan City Council on Ph: 3412 5318.

What to do if you get a needle stick injury

- Stay calm.
- Encourage the wound to bleed (gently squeeze).
- Wash the area with cold running water & soap (if available).
- Apply an antiseptic and band-aid.
- As soon as possible, contact your local doctor or hospital for advice on the need for HIV or Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C testing, counselling and immunisation.

Source: Queensland Health/ Local Government Assn. of Qld

Safe sharps disposal checklist



Place your sharps in an Australian Standard approved sharps container or in a suitable container that is rigid-walled, puncture resistant and has a sealed lid.



Dispose of your sharps container in the community sharps disposal bins listed in this brochure.



Community sharps disposal units are located in most public toilets for the disposal of single sharps.



DON'T drop **exposed** needles/ syringes in the rubbish/ recycle bins, flush down toilets, drop in parks, roads or storm water drains that may cause harm to you and others.



DON'T reuse syringes. Communicable diseases are REAL.

For more information about sharps disposal please contact:

Logan City Council
3412 5318
www.logan.qld.gov.au

CLEAN NEEDLE HELPLINE
1800 NEEDLE
1800 633 353

This is an initiative of:



Logan City Council • www.logan.qld.gov.au • PO BOX 3226, Logan City DC QLD 4114
Central Administration Centre - 150 Wembley Road, Logan Central QLD 4114

Safe Sharps Disposal

Community Information



Protect yourself and others from injury

What is a community sharp?

Community sharps are generally considered to be needles, syringes and lancets able to puncture the human skin. Sharps are used by members of the community for various reasons, including the administration of prescribed medication, blood testing of specific physiological parameters, drug use and animal husbandry.

Inappropriately discarded sharps pose a risk to the community and workers when disposed of in public areas, such as:



- rubbish bins (general waste stream);
- flushed down toilets;
- dropped in parks, roads and storm water drains.

Photo: Council's Environmental Health Officer and Parks Facilities Officer responding to a community request regarding inappropriately discarded needles.

Safe community sharps disposal

For best practice sharps disposal:

- Place sharps into an Australian Standard approved sharps container; and
- Dispose of the sharps container into a *community sharps disposal bin*.

As a minimum legislative requirement, the community may dispose of sharps in a suitable container that is **rigid-walled, puncture resistant and is sealed or securely closed**. Examples of a suitable container include:

- Australian Standard approved sharps container;
- Recycled metal coffee can with securely taped lid; or
- Recycled thick plastic laundry liquid container with secure lid.

The sharps container or suitable container can then be placed into your nearest *community sharps disposal bin*. Although not the recommended option, the community may dispose of the sharps container or sealed suitable container into a general household rubbish bin.

Sharps containers

Australian Standard approved sharps containers are manufactured in various sizes, including 10 litres, 2.8 litres and smaller sharps containers. Sharps containers can be purchased from various locations, including pharmacies, Diabetes Australia or are available **free** from Needle & Syringe Programs (NSPs).



Community sharps disposal bins

Community sharps disposal bins are installed across Logan to provide safe sharps disposal locations in the city. These bins are for the disposal of sharps containers only. A licensed clinical waste contractor regularly services the bins. For locations of community sharps disposal bins in Logan, refer to the table below.



Note: The community sharps disposal bins are provided for the general community. Commercial **'clinical and related waste'** generators are required to engage their own licensed waste contractors.

Locations of community sharps disposal bins in Logan

No.	Location name	Address	UBD ref.	Opening times	Bin size
Logan City Council					
1.	Browns Plains Smart Tip	349 Browns Plains Road, Heritage Park	240 R20	Mon - Sun 7 am to 5.15 pm	2 x 240 litre
2.	Carbrook Smart Tip	1801 Mount Cotton Road, Cornubia	245 B12	Mon - Sun 7 am to 5.15 pm	240 litre
3.	Greenbank Transfer Station	124-142 Pub Lane (Cnr Equestrian Lane), Greenbank	278 H10	Mon - Sun 7 am to 5 pm	240 litre
4.	Logan Village Transfer Station	1406-1432 Waterford - Tamborine Road, Logan Village	303 G6	Mon - Sun 7 am to 5 pm	240 litre
5.	Beenleigh Transfer Station	Wuraga Road (Cnr Beaudesert - Beenleigh Road), Beenleigh	283 R6	Mon - Sun 7 am to 4.50 pm	240 litre
6.	Animal Management Centre	213 Queens Road, Kingston	242 L12	Mon - Friday 8.30 am - 4.30 pm Saturday 9 am - 2 pm	240 litre
7.	Administration Centre - Immunisation Clinic/ Diabetes Australia Queensland outlet	150 Wembley Road, Logan Central	241 N8	Mon/Tues/Friday 8.30 am - 12.30 pm 1 pm - 4.30 pm Thurs 3.30 pm - 7 pm	240 litre
8.	Marsden Depot	Council Staff Only	N/A	N/A	240 litre
9.	Beenleigh Depot	Council Staff Only	N/A	N/A	240 litre
10.	Munruben Depot	Council Staff Only	N/A	N/A	240 litre
Queensland Health					
11.	Logan Central Community Health Centre	97-103 Wembley Road, Logan Central	242 Q7	24 hour access	2 x 240 litre
12.	Beenleigh Community Health Centre	10-18 Mt Warren Boulevard, Beenleigh	284 B5	24 hour access	240 litre
13.	Browns Plains Community Health Centre	Cnr Middle Road & Wineglass Drive, Hillcrest	259 Q2	24 hour access	240 litre
Youth and Family Service (Logan City) Inc (YFS)					
14.	Youth and Family Service (Logan City) Inc. (YFS)	2-4 Rowan Street, Slacks Creek	242 C7	24 hour access	2 x 240 litre