

Guide to Home-Generated Sharps (needles) and Drug Disposal in Alameda County

Thanks to the County ordinances requiring manufacturer funded and operated takeback programs for drugs and sharps (needles) Alameda County has a robust and growing network of local pharmacies, police departments, hospitals and other sites that collect drugs and sharps as well as a free mail back program for sharps.

Drugs:

Convenient self-service kiosks are currently located at 71 sites throughout the county that accept all prescription drugs in any dosage form (pills, liquids, creams, aerosols). Each site has a self-service kiosk near the pharmacy area or, for police departments and hospitals, in the lobby. Prefilled syringes and auto injectors with an integral or attached needle should be handled as a "Sharp".

Prepare your drugs for disposal before arriving at the kiosk site:

Protect your privacy by removing or obscuring any labels showing your personal information on drug containers or vials. You can pour all your pills into a Zip-lock bag no larger than 1 gallon in size, and recycle the vials and other containers in your home recycling. Liquids and creams should remain in their original containers and tightly closed to prevent leakage. Aerosols should have their protective caps affixed to prevent accidental discharge. Remove inhaler vials from the inhaler mechanism.

At the kiosk:

Take care at the kiosk not to introduce too many materials into the kiosk drop-chute at one time. Check the kiosk chute after closing to ensure the drugs dropped into the kiosk. Federal law prevents anyone from reviewing or examining the drugs you wish to dispose, so place them in the kiosk yourself – do not accept any unsolicited assistance to do so.

Sharps:

Sharps, syringes, needles, auto injectors, prefilled syringes with needle, and lancets should be in a sealed FDA-cleared Sharps container. Sharps containers are available in most drug stores and from mail order & internet e-commerce sources. Kiosks in pharmacies, Hospitals and Police Departments can accept Sharps containers up to 1 gallon in size. Larger sharps containers need to be brought to one of the 4 county Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facilities. Anyone needing a Sharps container, or if disposing a large quantity of Sharps, should contact the HHW facilities 800-606-6606.

Free Mail-back containers:

Mail-back containers mailed directly to your home are available by calling 1-844-633-7765 or visiting <https://med-project.org/locations/alameda/mail-back> to fill out an on-line order form.

Novo Nordisk also has a free Mail-back container service for their customers. Call 1-877-438-0564 or on the web at <https://www.novocare.com/content/novocare/en/psc/safe-needles-program-container.html>

See the list on the next page – All sites take drugs. Sites that say (**Sharps Accepted**) take sharps in sharps containers up to one gallon in size. The Household Hazardous waste facilities take larger sharps containers and are the solution for residents who have large quantities or do not have sharps containers.

Medication Drop-Off Locations in the Tri-Valley

DUBLIN

[CVS Pharmacy \(Sharps accepted\)](#)

7201 Regional Street
Dublin 10am-7pm daily

[Dublin Police Department](#)

100 Civic Plaza
Dublin Mon-Fri 8am-5pm

LIVERMORE

[CVS Pharmacy \(Sharps accepted\)](#)

1500 1st Street
Livermore 9am-9pm daily

[CVS Pharmacy \(Sharps accepted\)](#)

4405 1st Street
Livermore 9am-8pm daily

[Kaiser Permanente Pharmacy](#)

[#241 \(Sharps accepted\)](#)
3000 Las Positas Road
Livermore Mon-Fri 8:45am-6pm

[Sharps Only](#)

Household Hazardous Waste
Facilities

Livermore HHW facility

5584 La Ribera St
Livermore
Thurs & Fri 9-2:30 Sat 9-4
Visit Stopwaste.org or 800-606-6606
for more information.

PLEASANTON

[CVS Pharmacy \(Sharps accepted\)](#)

3010 Bernal Avenue
Pleasanton 9am-9pm daily

[CVS Pharmacy \(Sharps accepted\)](#)

6750 Bernal Avenue
Pleasanton 8am-10pm daily

[CVS Pharmacy](#)

3999 Santa Rita Road
Pleasanton 8am-9pm daily

[Kaiser Permanente Pharmacy South 1 #471](#)

7601 Stoneridge Drive
Pleasanton
Mon-Fri 8:30am-8:30pm;
Sat 8:30am-4pm

[Pleasanton Police Department](#)

4833 Bernal Avenue
Pleasanton (open 24-hours a day)