

## **SPRINGFIELD TOWNSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF USED NEEDLES OR OTHER SHARPS**

### **Do •**

Immediately place used needles and other sharps in a sharps disposal container to reduce the risk of needle-sticks, cuts, or punctures from loose sharps. Use an FDA-cleared sharps disposal container, if possible. If sharps container is not available Springfield Township Health Department recommends using a heavy-duty plastic household container (i.e. laundry detergent container) as an alternative.

**All sharps disposal containers should be:** • made of a heavy-duty plastic; • able to close with a tight-fitting, puncture-proof lid • upright and stable during use and disposal; • leak-resistant; and • properly labeled as **SHARPS IN BOLD LETTERS. PLEASE PLACE SEALED CONTAINER CURBSIDE NEXT TO YOUR REGULAR TRASH CONTAINER THE MORNING OF YOUR TRASH PICK UP. DO NOT PLACE IN A SEALED BAG OR TRASH CAN.** Pet owners who use needles to give medicine to their pets should follow the same sharps disposal guidelines used for humans.

**DON'T •** Throw needles or other sharps into the trash. This puts trash and sewage workers, janitors, housekeepers, household members, and children at risk of being harmed. • Flush needles and other sharps down the toilet. • Put needles and other sharps in your recycling bin — they are not recyclable. • Try to remove, bend, break, or recap needles used by another person. This can lead to accidental needle sticks, which may cause serious infections. • Attempt to remove the needle without a needle clipper device because the needles could fall, fly off, or get lost and injure someone.

If you have questions please call Springfield Township Health Officer at 610-544-1300, ext. 137 or email [LDevlin@Springfielddelco.org](mailto:LDevlin@Springfielddelco.org).