



## MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Your public health team, connecting with our communities to achieve healthier outcomes

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### **Health Department asks residents to routinely dispose of sharps**

Stanton- We're all busy with too much to do and not enough time to do it. So, to save our sanity and ensure things get done, we develop routines. Routines are certainly important to all of us, but for some they are absolutely vital.

Routines like exercising, eating right and using sharps (needles, syringes or lancets) to deliver medication are an essential part of daily life for diabetics and others with serious medical conditions. Skipping a day's dose just isn't an option if they want to be as healthy as they can be.

The Mid-Michigan District Health Department applauds those who stay on top of their chronic illnesses and reminds them to develop another healthy habit - properly disposing of all those sharps.

Many people aren't aware that throwing used sharps in the garbage puts trash and sewage workers, janitors, housekeepers, and family members at risk. The best way to prevent injury is to place all used or unneeded sharps in a proper container and take them to a collection site, like the one at the Mid-Michigan District Health Department.

Montcalm County residents may take advantage of this free service by bringing their sharps containers to the Health Department, which is located at 615 North State Street in Stanton, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sharps must be in a medical sharps container, metal coffee can, or plastic laundry detergent or fabric softener jug to be accepted. To ensure everyone's safety, please make sure the container's lid is closed tightly and taped shut. It is important to note that sharps will not be accepted unless they are in one of these approved containers.

Also be advised that the health department does not have sharps containers available. If you'd like to purchase one, check with your local pharmacy or retailer like Meijer or Walmart.

This program is for Montcalm County residents only. Sharps from dentists, physicians, etc. will not be accepted.

If you have questions about the Health Department's sharps program, you may visit [www.mmdhd.org](http://www.mmdhd.org) or call 989-831-3669.

*Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties.*

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