

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

Updated 2/20/21

Thanks to County ordinances, drug manufacturers fund and operate a takeback program for drugs and sharps (needles). Alameda County has a growing network of 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 located at over 80 sites throughout the county. The sites 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 going to the kiosk site:

Protect your privacy - remove or obscure any label showing your personal information on a drug container. You can pour all pills into a Zip-lock bag no larger than 1 gallon in size. Recycle empty pill bottles and other containers in your home recycling. Leave liquids and creams in their original containers – close them tightly to prevent leakage. Aerosols should have their protective caps affixed to prevent accidental discharge. Remove inhaler vials from the inhaler mechanism.

At the kiosk:

Open the kiosk chute and place small amounts of materials into the kiosk drop-chute at a time. Close the kiosk chute then re-open to ensure the drugs dropped inside 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 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. If you need to dispose of a large quantity of Sharps contact the HHW facilities at 800-606-6606.

Free Mail-Back Sharps Containers

Mail-back Sharps Containers delivered free, direct to your home, are available by calling 1-844-633-7765 or visiting <https://med-project.org/locations/alameda/mail-back> to order on-line.

Novo Nordisk also sends free Mail-back containers to their customers. Call 1-877-438-0564, or on-line at: <https://www.novocare.com/content/novocare/en/psp/safe-needles-program-container.html>

Find a drop off site – See the list on the next page:

All the sites take drugs, except the County Household Hazardous Waste Facilities.

Sites that say (**Sharps Accepted**) take sharps in approved sharps containers up to one gallon in size.

The Household Hazardous Waste Facilities take sharps in larger containers and are the solution for residents who have large quantities or do not have sharps containers.

Medication Drop-Off Locations near San Leandro, San Lorenzo, Hayward, Castro Valley

CASTRO VALLEY

[CVS Pharmacy](#) (Sharps accepted)

3667 Castro Valley Boulevard
Castro Valley 8am-9pm

[Eden Medical Center](#)

20103 Lake Chabot Road Castro Valley
Lobby open 24 hours

[Rite Aid Pharmacy](#)

3848 Castro Valley Blvd Mon-Fri
9am-9pm
Castro Valley, CA Sat-Sun 10am-6pm

HAYWARD

[California State University East Bay Pharmacy](#)

25800 Carlos Bee Boulevard
Hayward, CA
510-885-3735 Mon-Wed & Fri
8:30am-5pm, Thu 10am-5pm

[CVS Pharmacy](#) (Sharps accepted)

22501 Foothill Boulevard
Hayward, CA
510-881-8474 9am-8pm daily

[CVS Pharmacy](#) (Sharps accepted)

26059 Mission Boulevard
Hayward, CA
510-886-2207 8am-9pm daily

[CVS Pharmacy](#) (Sharps accepted)

243 West Jackson Street
Hayward, CA
510-783-0330 9am-8pm daily

[Hayward Household Hazardous Waste](#) (ONLY SHARPS, NO MEDICINES Accepted)

2091 West Winton Avenue
Hayward, CA
Appointments: StopWaste.org HHW
or call 800-606-6606
Thu-Fri 9am-2:30pm; Sat 9am-4pm

[Mission Pharmacy](#) (Sharps accepted)

22138 Mission Blvd.
Hayward, CA
510-581-6986 Mon-Fri 9am-1pm;
2-5:30pm

[Rite Aid Pharmacy](#)

3191 Mission Boulevard
Hayward, CA
(510) 886-3341 7am-10pm daily

[Teds Drugs](#) (Sharps accepted)

27453 Hesperian Boulevard
Hayward, CA
510-782-6494 Mon-Fri 9:30am-
6pm

[Tennyson Pharmacy](#) (Sharps accepted)

589 W. Tennyson Road
Hayward, CA
510-266-0800 Mon-Fri 9am-7pm;
Sat 10am-3pm

SAN LEANDRO

[Alameda County Sheriff's Office](#)

15001 Foothill Boulevard
San Leandro, CA
510-667-7721 Mon-Fri: 7-5pm

[CVS Pharmacy](#) (Sharps accepted)

1550 East 14th Street
San Leandro, CA
510-351-7957 8am-9pm daily

[CVS Pharmacy](#) (Sharps accepted)

699 Lewelling Boulevard
San Leandro, CA
510-351-0951 8am-10pm daily

[CVS Pharmacy](#)

1401 Washington Avenue
San Leandro, CA
510-483-2810 Mon-Sat 8am-
10pm; Sun 8am-10pm

[Rite Aid Pharmacy](#)

1355 MacArthur Boulevard
San Leandro, CA
(510) 352-3677 7am-10pm daily

[San Leandro Hospital](#) (Sharps accepted)

13855 E. 14th Street
San Leandro, CA
510-357-6500 Mon-Fri 8am-9pm;
Sat-Sun 8:30am-8pm

[Walgreen's Pharmacy](#)

15500 Washington Avenue
San Leandro, CA
510-484-3917
Open 24-hours a day