# Safe Sharps Disposal

### For Kings County Residents Only - NO Commercial Businesses

Sharps are needles, syringes, lancets and medical devices that must be disposed of properly. Many people are unaware of safe disposal methods available to them and simply throw their used needles in the trash which is a great risk to public safety and public health.

As of September 1, 2018, it is illegal to dispose of sharps in solid waste disposal or recycling containers.

### **Sharps are NOT RECYCLABLE!**

Never place sharps in a recycling bin or leave needles and syringes where someone can be injured. Never discard sharps in the trash. Do not flush needles, syringles or lancets down the toilet. Do not clip, bend or recap sharps. Sharps must be disposed of in an approved sharps container and dropped off at a sharps drop off site.

## Why are used needles and syringes dangerous?

Improper disposal of sharps injure hundreds of recycling and sanitation workers each year. Recycling staff at Kings Waste and Recycling Authority facility are at risk of injury from discarded needles and other medical sharps. Children, adults and even pets are at risk for needle-stick injuries when sharps are disposed of improperly. Used sharps spread infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, tetanus and syphilis. Proper disposal of sharps can prevent injury and disease.

### How should sharps be contained?

All needles should be treated as if they carry a disease. Used sharps must be contained in special sharps container that is puncture resisitant, rigid and leak proof. Do not put sharps in containers that can be punctured such as soda cans, coffee cans, plastic milk, juice or soda bottles.









**KWRA Hours of Operation** 

Monday through Saturday 7am to 4pm

**CLOSED Sundays and Holidays** 

### Where should I bring my sharps container?

Kings Waste & Recycling Authority

7803 E. Hanford-Armona Road

Hanford, CA 93230

Office: 559-583-8829