

Disposal Process

If you are Native American and eligible to receive services at Min No Aya Win (MNAW) or the Center for American Indian Resources (CAIR), you may stop by the pharmacy at either location and pick up a sharps container free of charge.

Once the container is filled to capacity, drop it off with the front desk staff at either location for proper disposal.



Why Does It Matter?

A survey at MNAW and CAIR conducted in 2012 determined areas for intervention and education. Fond du Lac respondents of the survey told us:

- *20% throw away lancets/needles directly in the trash*
- *10% do not put their lancets/needles in any special container*
- *20% reuse their insulin needles*
- *45% reuse their lancets*
- *22% feel that they have never been told about proper disposal of needles*
- *83% indicated a need for more education*

When needles are not disposed of properly, injuries or illness can occur. The risk for the transmission of blood-borne pathogens, such as human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), hepatitis B, and hepatitis C increases when sharps are not placed in appropriate containers.

Please do your part to keep the risk down.

Alternative Disposal Option

If you do not have a sharps container from MNAW or CAIR Pharmacies, you can make one of your own.

1. **SELECT** a rigid plastic container with a screw-on lid (an example is a laundry detergent bottle).
2. **LABEL** the container with a “Household Medical Sharps” sticker (you can pick up the stickers at WLSSD or MNAW/CAIR pharmacies).
3. **PLACE** needles, syringes, and lancets in the container immediately after use. When the container is full, secure the lid with heavy-duty tape.
4. **BRING** the container to the front desk at CAIR or MNAW. Staff will take the containers and ensure they are disposed of properly.

Thank you for keeping your community free from needles, syringes and lancets!

WLSSD

2626 Courtland Street
Duluth, MN 55806
(218) 722-0761
Call for Holiday Hours

Thursday – Saturday
9 am to 4 pm

Carlton County Transfer Station

1950 Hwy 210
Cloquet, MN 55720
(218) 879-9089

April 1 – October 31
Monday – Saturday
8:30 – 4

November 1 – March 31
Monday – Friday
8:30 – 4
Saturdays, 8:30 - 1

Drop off is free, just bring them to the window in a puncture proof container.



Min No Aya Win
Human Services Center
927 Trettel Lane
Cloquet, MN 55720
(218) 879-1227

Center for American Indian Resources
221 W 4th Street
Duluth, MN 55806
(218) 879-1227

SHARPS DISPOSAL ASSISTANCE

