FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN LAKE COUNTY ADD ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS TO RED SHARPS CONTAINER DISPOSAL PROGRAM



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Eustis, FL The Florida Department of Health in Lake County (DOH-Lake) now has two additional locations were Lake County residents may pay \$15 to safely dispose of biohazardous medical waste, such as syringes with attached needles and disposable lancets at the following locations between 11am-1pm Monday through Friday. Residents will also receive a new red sharps disposal container replacement.

New Location

Florida Department of Health in Clermont 875 Oakley Seaver Drive, Clermont, FL 34711 (352) 989-9001

New Location

Florida Department of Health in Leesburg 2113 Griffin Road, Leesburg, FL 34748 (352) 360-6548

Florida Department of Health in Umatilla 249 E. Collins Street, Umatilla, FL 32784 (352) 771-5500

Sharps are just one category of biohazardous waste and include needles, scalpel blades, glass and pipettes that are used or contaminated with body fluids. Biohazardous waste must be disposed of according to federal, state and local regulations. Used needles and other contaminated sharps must be placed in a puncture-resistant, leak-proof container that is closable and is red in color or marked with biohazard label. Residents should never dispose of needles in household recycling or garbage bins.

Sharps are objects having the potential to puncture or lacerate and include syringes with attached needles and disposable lancets. Improper disposal can cause problems ranging from placing other residents and waste management workers at health risk, to clogging lift stations when disposed in the sewer system. Sharps can transmit Hepatitis, AIDS and other fluid-borne pathogens. As the health care industry moves towards increasing the number of procedures patients can do at home, such as self-administered insulin, the safe disposal of used Sharps is a public health concern.

For more information regarding the program please call 352-771-5500.

About the Florida Department of Health

The department, nationally accredited by the <u>Public Health Accreditation Board</u>, works to protect, promote and improve the health of all people in Florida through integrated state, county and community efforts.

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