

Operations Policy Manual

Benton County Landfill

**Policy:** Medical Sharps' Acceptance Policy

## Medical Sharps' Policy

### General Policy

The purpose of the Sharps Acceptance Policy for the Benton County Solid Waste Disposal Commission (BCSWDC) is to identify expectations and procedures for the management of sharps and needles at the Benton Landfill Household Hazardous Material Facility (HHM).

This policy is intended to ensure that proper monitoring and regulatory procedures are in place to adequately manage sharps waste generated in Benton County.

### Specific Provisions

BCSWDC full-time employees will be expected to implement the identified sharps management best practices.

Sharps must be inside a proper and certified "Biohazard" manufactured sharps container or a labeled, rigid, puncture resistant bottle with a secured cap. If sharps are delivered in other containers, they must be placed in a puncture resistant sharps container and the customer will be assessed a fee. All sharps containers are to be placed in the biohazard box by the **CUSTOMER** only.

The biohazard box should be lined with the red biohazard plastic bag before filling with sharps containers. **Employees are not to touch the sharps containers. They are only to maneuver the biohazard container to make it easy for the customer to place their marked shapes container into.**

Biohazard boxes will be available for non-medical businesses to use as household sharps collection sites for their customers. The collection boxes and disposal fee will be paid for at the time of procurement of the biohazard box from the non-medical business customer.

Each employee will participate in the hazardous materials training program as required, including an annual refresher to educate employees about the hazards associated with dangerous chemicals and the methods of decreasing or eliminating these hazards. It includes detailed safety procedures for handling household hazardous material, wearing protective equipment properly and maintaining a safe working environment. This program also educates employees about the existence and location of safety equipment, personal protective equipment, emergency directories, and the response procedures to follow in the event of an emergency.

### Emergency Response Plan

This plan, which is included in the household hazardous materials operations plan, consists of information to assist in the identification of the characteristics of an emergency; to determine and implement necessary response actions; to conduct follow-up activities; to mediate the effects of an accident; and to prepare timely responses to governmental agencies.

**Record Keeping**

Number of boxes of sharps sent for proper disposal will be kept on record at the Benton County Landfill.

**Enforcement**

Operations Manager has the responsibility to enforce this policy.

**Fees**

Disposal Box for a Non-Medical Business	\$25.00 per box
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