

Safe Needle Disposal



Needles and syringes are used by a diverse range of community members including people with diabetes and other medical conditions, pet owners, and people who use illicit substances.

Providing sterile needles and syringes to support those who use substances is a form of harm reduction. Providing sterile needles and syringes benefits the person who needs them by limiting their chance of contracting HIV, hepatitis C, and other infectious diseases. It also protects their families and the community as a whole.

In Surrey, as with many other communities, there is a risk that needles and syringes may not end up in proper disposal containers and may end up on the street, or in



The risk of infection following a needle-stick injury outside a medical setting is low. If you are poked or scratched by a needle, you should immediately wash the affected area with soap and water and seek medical attention. If you choose to collect and safely dispose of needles and syringes, be sure to wear gloves or use tongs.

Visit www.fraserhealth.ca for more information and factsheets about disposing of needles safely.

public spaces and parks. Surrey is pro-actively taking steps to reduce inappropriately discarded injecting equipment.

Programs are underway with a variety of agencies to clean up needles and syringes found on the street and decrease the number ending up in public places in the first instance. Current programs are delivered by:

- Lookout Emergency Aid Society,
- Fraser Health Authority,
- Newton Business Improvement Association,
- RainCity Housing, and
- The City of Surrey.

The Rig Dig Program

The Rig Dig Program is managed by the Lookout Emergency Aid Society in Surrey and runs 7 days a week across Surrey North & Whalley. Crews collect and safely dispose of needles and syringes at sites during morning (8am – 12pm) and afternoon (1pm – 4pm) shifts each day. Rig Dig uses employees, as well as trained volunteers, to assist in collecting needles and syringes.



The Mobile Harm Reduction Team

The Mobile Harm Reduction Team is also run by the Lookout Emergency Aid Society and provides supplies and education to people who use substances and community organizations. They also monitor the number of needles and syringes collected and track hot spots across the City. You can contact the Mobile Harm Reduction Team at:

604 - 328 - 7610

Monday to Friday

8:00am to 4:00pm

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PUBLIC SAFETY
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USED NEEDLE DISPOSAL PROGRAM

A NEWTON BIA SAFETY INITIATIVE

NEWTON 200-7380 KING GEORGE BLVD.
SURREY, BC V3W5A5
604-593-2294
BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION www.newtonbia.com

RainCity Housing

RainCity Housing has a mobile team working in the Newton area to provide for safe disposal of needles and syringes.

City of Surrey

As part of the City's operations there is regular clean up and collection of waste in public spaces across Surrey.

To report discarded needles you can use the My Surrey App available for download for your mobile devices.

Safe Disposal of Used Needles & Syringes

If you use needles and syringes, or find them in public places, there are many ways to safely dispose of them.

Rig Dig is a program that pro-actively collects needles and syringes in public spaces. You can call them at **604 328 7610**. Other organizations like those listed below have collection facilities where needles and syringes can be disposed of safely.

- **Fraser Health Public Health Units**

- » 100 - 10233 153 Street, Guildford
- » 220 - 10362 King George Boulevard, North Surrey
- » Berkeley Pavilion, 15476 Vine Avenue, White Rock/South Surrey
- » 205 - 17700 56 Avenue, Cloverdale
- » 200 - 7337 137 Street, Newton

- **Lookout Emergency Aid Society**

- » Positive Point, 10697 135A Street, Surrey
- » Front Room, 10667 135A Street, Surrey

- **Quibble Creek Sobering and Assessment Centre**

- » 13670 94A Avenue, Surrey

- **Some Pharmacies also offer safe disposal facilities. Ask your local pharmacy if they offer these services.**

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