

**17-201. Medical waste.** (1) Storage generally. All pathological and/or infectious waste from, but not limited to hospitals, physicians, clinics, dental clinics, blood banks, medical laboratories, nursing homes, health care facilities, and mortuaries shall be placed in separate containers from normal waste items, and the infectious waste material shall be placed in durable disposable bags that can be tied and sealed when full. The bags holding pathological and/or infectious waste shall be stored in metal or equivalent containers with tight fitting lids while in the process of being filled. Containers for the storage of pathological and/or infectious waste shall be kept in places restrictive from access by the public and the materials shall be placed at the collection point only on the day they are to be collected. Needles shall be placed in puncture proof containers immediately after use and disposal syringes shall be disposed of with other medical waste and not become part of the normal solid waste stream. The disposal of all pathological and/or infectious waste shall be the responsibility of the person generating the waste and it shall be illegal for said pathological and/or infectious waste to be mixed with other refuse rubbish or garbage being collected by the city and/or any approved collection agencies in the city. All generators of pathological, infectious and hazardous waste shall fully comply with the rules, regulations and requirements of the public health department concerning the waste.

(2) Restrictions on disposal. It is an unlawful and prohibited act to deposit any pathological and/or infectious waste in any garbage container or to in any way associate or mix the same with the garbage, rubbish or refuse that is to be collected by the city.

Infectious and pathological waste including hypodermic syringes, however, hypodermic syringes which are not of an infectious nature may be inserted in the normal garbage, refuse or rubbish for collection so long as said hypodermic needles are properly packaged as described herein. All hypodermic syringes which are placed in the garbage or refuse for collection by city employees shall have the needle broken at the hub of said syringe and said hypodermic syringes shall be enclosed in a protective container of sufficient strength and size to protect the city employees from inadvertent injury during the collection procedures.

(3) "Sharps." No hypodermic syringes, knives or other sharp objects shall be placed in a garbage container in such a manner as to expose city employees or others handling said container to possible injury because of the existence of said syringes or other sharp objects.

Anyone disposing of hypodermic syringes, sharp objects or other hazardous material in such a manner as to cause injury or expose those persons handling the garbage or garbage containers to possible injury, shall be in violation of this chapter and subject to the full prosecution of the penalties presented in this chapter. (Ord. 89-735, §§ 1, 2(f), 3 and 4)