

Syringes

Whether you are generating diabetic syringes, self-administering yourself with injected medicines or treating a family member or pet via injection, you are generating a biohazardous medical waste. The full definition of a biohazardous medical waste is located in the Arizona Administrative Code (A.A.C.) under R18-13-1401 (5) (http://apps.azsos.gov/public_services/Title_18/18-13.pdf and then scroll down to Page 20).

Under the A.A.C. R18-13-1403, a homeowner is exempt if that person returns unused medical sharps to the manufacturer. OR

A household generator residing in a private, public, or semi-public residence who generates biohazardous medical waste in the administration of self care or the agent of the household generator who administers the medical care. This exemption does not apply to the facility in which the person resides if that facility is licensed by the Arizona Department of Health Services.

Great care needs to be taken to protect yourself and others from being stuck with a needle. It is suggested that homeowners place the syringes/needles in a disposable container and then fill that container with a polyurethane spray foam, such as Great Stuff (see picture to the right) or Quick Drying Cement (see right – comes in a variety of sizes).

Mix cement per the directions on the container and be sure to cover all syringes. Allow to dry from top to bottom and then toss the container into a trash bag before tossing into your trash.



Commercial and industrial facilities, clinics, Hospitals, etc. are not included in this exemption.