

# Community Sharps Program

## Frequently Asked Questions



The Department of Health have commissioned WALGA to implement a Program with the aim of upgrading existing or installing new sharps collection containers in public places.

This Program aims to improve the disposal network for sharps in public places to make it easier to dispose of these items and reduce the risk of inappropriate disposal and the potential for needle stick injuries.

WALGA held two online information sessions in July 2021 to ensure Local Governments were provided with sufficient information and could raise any issues relating to this Program. Responses to frequently asked questions are summarised below.

Are sharps containers being provided for new locations only or can a Local Government apply to get existing containers replaced through the Program?

Local Governments can apply for new sharps container locations, as well as upgrades for existing sites.

If a Local Government already has a network of sharps containers, is there a limit to the number of locations they can include in their EOI?

The funding amount is limited, however Local Governments are encouraged to put in their EOI all the sites they would like to have sharps containers.

For the purposes of the Program, what is considered a public place? Would a waste facility or transfer station be considered a public place?

A public place is somewhere the public can access. Yes, a waste facility or transfer station would be considered a public place.

What are the approximate costs of servicing the sharps containers?

Local Governments introducing the service will need to seek quotes for their specific situation from appropriate suppliers ([WALGA Preferred Suppliers](#) include Cleanaway and SUEZ).

Can the sharps containers be disposed of at landfill sites?

That depends on the sites' licence conditions (registration), if your site is licenced to take medical waste that would include sharps.

Can a Local Government submit an EOI for sharps container signage only?

Yes.

## CONTACTS

## What will the sharps container signage detail?

That the containers are for sharps only, contact information to report a full/damaged unit or if it requires servicing, and a link to needle stick injury and Department of Health information.

## Can a Local Government submit an EOI for sharps container signage only?

The signage will be generic, with space for local information if required.

## What kind of containers does the Program provide?

WALGA will work with the Local Government to determine the most appropriate sharps containers for your particular location. For example, if the area is frequently vandalised then having heavy duty sharps containers would be suggested. If there is little or no vandalism a standard type of containers would be provided. Both types of containers are supplied with an internal sharps collection container.

*Example only: Heavy duty sharps container*



*Example only: Standard sharps container*



The Community Sharps Program Expression of Interest and Application Form is available [here](#). Completed forms must be submitted by **5:00pm on Friday, 6 August 2021**.

## CONTACTS