

## Update on sharps containers/counts

Facilities has provided its first update on sharps collection since piloting the sharps deposit containers at the Central Library and the University, Ballard and Capitol Hill branches in early April. At each location, one accessible container was installed in the men's, women's, single occupant and family restrooms.

One purpose of the pilot was to evaluate the durability of the containers. Facilities reports that none of the containers have been vandalized to date. While most of the containers are seeing usage, staff members continue to find sharps elsewhere at our locations.

Facilities reported that it has not seen a significant increase or change in the number of sharps being collected. We will post updated collection information from time to time during the pilot.

Below you will find two tables.

The first is a report on sharps collected bi-weekly from public restrooms in pilot locations. Sharps deposited in the containers are being counted every two weeks as the containers are being serviced.

The second is a report on sharps found on Library properties each week that are not placed in restroom sharps containers. These are sharps discovered by janitorial or other staff, and placed in sharps containers located in janitorial closets at each branch.

Please remember to follow [procedures](#) when handling sharps. For more information about the risk of infection from a needle prick outside a health care setting (which is very low), please follow this link to a 2015 report from the University of California Berkeley:

[https://www.dir.ca.gov/CHSWC/Reports/2015/sharps\\_3-25-15.pdf](https://www.dir.ca.gov/CHSWC/Reports/2015/sharps_3-25-15.pdf).

If you have further questions, please contact Aaron Bert, Facilities and Security Services manager, at [aaron.bert@spl.org](mailto:aaron.bert@spl.org) or 6-4159. We will continue to update you on any changes or trends throughout the pilot, which will continue through September.

\*The count of 50 on May 4 is an anomaly, as someone found a bag filled with new and unused needles and placed the "clean" needles in the container.

**Bi-weekly sharps box counts at pilot locations**

	April 20, 2018	May 4, 2018
Ballard	0	11
Capitol Hill	12	50
University A	5	6
University B	1	9
Central Men's Level 1	3	4
Central Women's Level 1	0	4
Central Men's Level 3	2	3
Central Women's Level 3	2	4
Central Single Stall Level 3	7	10
Central Family Level 1	0	0
Central Men's Level 7	7	7
Central Women's Level 7	2	4
Central Men's Level 4	11	15
Central Women's Level 4	0	0

**Weekly sharps counts (sharps not disposed of in pilot restroom boxes) at all locations**

	April 13, 2018	April 20, 2018	April 27, 2018	May 4, 2018
Ballard	3	2	2	3
Beacon Hill	3	0	2	0
Broadview	0	0	10	8
Capitol Hill	4	16	8	2
Columbia	2	0	0	0
Delridge	0	0	0	0
Douglass-Truth	0	0	0	0
Fremont	0	11	0	0
Green Lake	0	0	0	0
Greenwood	3	5	0	1
High Point	0	0	0	0

International District/Chinatown	2	0	0	0
Lake City	3	4	0	1
Magnolia	0	0	0	0
Madrona-Sally				
Goldmark	0	0	0	0
Montlake	0	0	0	0
NewHolly	0	0	0	0
Northeast	0	0	0	0
Northgate	0	0	0	0
Queen Anne	0	0	0	0
Rainier Beach	2	1	0	4
South Park	0	0	0	0
Southwest	0	0	0	0
University	0	0	0	10
Wallingford	0	0	0	0
West Seattle	0	0	0	0