



Reusable Sharps Container Program

A Reusable Sharps Program eliminates the ongoing expense of purchasing disposable sharps containers. By eliminating the cost associated of purchasing disposable containers and the labor associated with autoclaving the waste, labs typically save 30% or more by converting to a reusable program.

The actual cost incurred by a lab is determined by the actual weight of material placed in the sharps container. Based on a survey at the School of Medicine 90% of the containers were less than 17 pounds. **Based on a 17-pound weight assumption per full container, at \$.64 per pound, cost of one full sharps container translates to about \$10.88 per container.** There is no additional cost for the container or the service. This information should help you with estimating your Purchase Orders.

Containers are inspected weekly and may be replaced on demand, or when they are 75% full, or odorous. If the container has been in the lab for 30 consecutive days they will be exchanged to remain in compliance with the University's EHRS (Environmental Health and Radiation Safety department) and the PA DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) regulations.

The unique site number for each lab is the building name, floor, and lab name.

Sharp Medical Waste Services Contact information

New account information and set-up, request additional service, report concern:

Operations Help email: upenn@sharpsmws.com

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