

Needle disposal containers to be installed in City-owned washrooms

This week the City of Parksville will install sharps containers in all City controlled public restrooms located at the Community Park, Springwood Park, Foster Park and the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre. The installation of the sharps containers is a priority for the City as needle finds and the resulting risk to the general public continues to increase.

Discarded drug paraphernalia such as syringes, stray needles and other sharps have become a challenging issue for the City of Parksville. Disposal of used sharps is a public safety issue – a “sharp” is any object which can pierce, puncture or cut the skin. Pen needles for insulin, lancets, syringes, knives, scalpels, razors, scissors or broken glass are all examples of sharps.

Containers for the disposal of sharps will be located in the public washrooms at the Community Park, Springwood Park, Foster Park and the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre. These containers are made of hard puncture-resistant plastic and are marked with a biohazard symbol.

Problematic drug use is an unfortunate reality in our society. Throughout Vancouver Island there are many different programs in place to support users to quit and/or reduce their habit. Vancouver Island Health Authority provides information on their website about disposal of needles and other drug paraphernalia. The Central Island VIHA communicable disease program may be contacted by phone 1 866 770-7798.

###

For more information:

Deb Tardiff, Manager of Communications

