

What is SF doing to control and cleanup the needles on the streets?

The Health Department is committed to cleaner streets in San Francisco. This is an environmental health issue that affects everyone in the city, and it is a problem for cities all over the world. For the last five years we have made extra efforts to improve the pickup of needle litter. Here's what we're have in place to reduce the number of needles on the streets:

- A five (5) member Community Health Response Team works across SF to properly dispose needles, offer Narcan and engage with the community to offer resources and referrals to care including treatment.
- A ten (10) person Clean-up crew funded by SFDPH and operated through SF AIDS Foundation operates 12 hours per day, 7 days per week. They are mobile and are reachable by text at (415) 810-1337. They also work collaboratively with organizations including San Francisco Drug User's Union, Homeless Youth Alliance, St. James Infirmary, Glide Harm Reduction Services to expand needle cleanup. Community members can participate in volunteer clean-up events every Friday from 12-2 pm at 117 6th street.
- The Health Department funds a collaborative of community-based syringe access and disposal programs. There are 13 sites that operate throughout the City. Each site provides an opportunity for disposal.
- The Healthy Streets Operation Center is a coordinated citywide effort to address concerns about homelessness and street behaviors and includes 311, Public Works, Public Health, Homeless and Supportive Housing, Police, and Emergency Management working together to address complaints related to homelessness and street issues.
- The City's Fix It Team, Downtown Streets, Community Benefits districts, and other City & community agencies address community concerns and conduct syringe clean up.
- There are 17 outdoor sharps containers for disposal located throughout the city.