Found a needle? Protect yourself. Dispose of it safely!
Children must be taught never to touch a discarded needle, but to show an adult where it is. Adults can safely pick up and dispose of a found needle by following the steps below.

You will need:
- Pliers or BBQ tongs
- Hard sided, non breakable container with a lid (not glass) – like an empty bleach, detergent or kitty litter container
- Rubber or thick gloves if there is visible blood on the syringe.

Take the pliers or tongs and container to where the needle is.

Place the container on a stable surface.

Use the pliers/tongs to carefully pick up the needle.

Hold the needle tip away from you.

Be careful not to prick yourself with the needle.

Carefully put the needle into the container, needle end first.

Close the container tightly.

Wash your hands and tongs.

Do not dispose of needles in your curbside garbage or Blue Box containers

Take the container to your local household hazardous waste site (no charge):
27 Olympic Drive, Dundas
37 Kilbride Road, Hamilton mountain
460 Kenora Avenue, east Hamilton

You may also drop off the container at a needle exchange site or call Public Health’s Needle Exchange Van to have a container picked up.

For info on needle exchange sites, go to www.hamilton.ca/van or call 905-546-3541.

Van Needle Exchange: 905-317-9966 Mon to Sat, 8 pm to midnight.