

North Precinct Advisory Council
Social Services Committee

invites community members to a free training

How to Safely Remove Used Syringes from a Public Area

Saturday, February 20

10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

University Masonic Lodge

4338 University Way NE



Joe Tinsley, Needle Exchange Coordinator for Seattle-King County Public Health, will talk about the risks, proper handling, and disposal of used needles. A limited number of sharps containers and garbage pickers will be available for participants.

For more information and to RSVP, contact NPAC Social Services Committee volunteer Michael Cuadra at mccuadra@msn.com

Why: Methamphetamine (meth) and heroin are the most common drugs confiscated by police during drug enforcement activities and are the most common reason people in King County call the Recovery Help Line. Heroin and meth-related deaths in King County have risen sharply since 2013 as have heroin-related admissions to substance abuse treatment programs.¹ One way this increase in heroin and meth abuse and addiction is showing up in our communities is as an increase in used and discarded needles in public places.

This free training will provide community members who regularly see discarded needles in public places with the information they need to safely dispose of them. While certainly not a solution for preventing and reducing drug abuse, the training can provide neighbors with information needed to keep public areas clean and safe.

Other resources:

- **Needles in parks:** Call the Seattle Parks Department Maintenance Request Line: 206-684-7250.
- **Needles on other city-owned land/facilities:** During regular business hours, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., call the SPU Illegal Dumping Hotline: 206-684-7587.

¹ More information at the University of Washington Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute: <http://adai.uw.edu/pubs/>

Who: The North Precinct Advisory Council (NPAC) meets the first Wednesday of every month, 7:00 p.m., at North Seattle College. NPAC members represent north Seattle community groups and businesses and meetings are open to the public. More information at <http://seattlenpac.blogspot.com>.