

Biohazardous Waste Disposal Guidelines

What's considered biohazardous waste?

Biohazardous waste is any waste containing or contaminated with biological material that is infectious or potentially infectious. This includes microbiological waste such as specimen cultures, culture dishes, pipettes or devices used to transfer, inoculate and mix cultures, and papers, kimwipes and sharps contaminated with biological materials.

Disposal Procedures

Non-contaminated broken glass can be disposed in the designated "Broken Glass" containers found throughout science. Sharps such as hypodermic needles and syringes shall be disposed in the designated "Sharps" containers, which are located in the Nursing Skill lab. All other biohazardous waste (except for animal carcasses) can be disposed in the designated red biohazardous waste containers (picture on the right) found throughout the labs.

Never dispose biohazardous wastes in a non-red plastic bag as they can be mistaken for regular trash. Biohazardous waste containers shall be rigid, puncture resistant, leak proof, closeable/sealable, and labeled with biohazard signs or symbols. Line the container with the red biohazard plastic bag to minimize having to decontaminate the container. Place the lid back on the container when not in use. Do not compress the waste to reduce its content as this can puncture the plastic bag.

Transport the wastes to the **designated location** for disposal when the container is full. Never leave the wastes on the lab floor without an approved and properly labeled secondary container.

designated BioHaz Waste container



broken glass container



Where should you dispose the waste?

Bring the waste containers to the Biology Stockroom in SCS 307A and dispose the wastes inside the large designated containers. Close the containers or tie the red plastic bag when transporting to prevent spillage. Always transport the waste in a rigid, leak proof secondary container to prevent spillage should the red plastic bag be punctured.

If you're unable to access the room, contact Sharon Horgan (x5-7475). The phone numbers are also posted on the room's door. Never leave the waste outside the room, in the hallway, or on the floor.

Where can you obtain the container or additional biohazardous waste bags ?

The red plastic bags are stored in SCS 307A. Contact Sharon Horgan if you need a biohazardous waste container for a lab.

Questions

If you have questions or in doubt on the proper disposal procedures, contact Sharon Horgan (x5-7475) or Donna Placzek in EHS (x5-2395).

