

Biohazardous & Biomedical Waste Disposal Guide



Biological materials that are discarded as biohazardous waste include:

- Infectious & potentially infectious materials
- Recombinant nucleic acids/organisms
- Human/primate products
- Microbial & cell cultures

Biohazardous waste contaminated with the following requires inactivation prior to disposal:

- Human, animal, and plant pathogens
- Human & primate blood, tissues, or other potentially infectious material (OPIM)
- Recombinant DNA (rDNA) material including plasmids, vectors, and genetically-modified organisms

Contaminated Solid Waste:

- Disposable PPE
- Medical products
- Labware
- rDNA materials
- Agar culture plates*



Collect in a leak-proof, covered container lined with a red autoclave bag



Autoclave:
Vacuum/Gravity Cycle
(121°C, ≥15 psi, 60-120 min.)
*Liquid Cycle
(121°C, ≥15 psi, 60-90 min.)



Dispose as biohazardous waste
(Discard box within 30 days of use)

Bag & Box Labels:

- PI Name
- Lab Location
- Contact Number
- Date

Contaminated Liquid Waste:

- Blood & bodily fluids
- Broth cultures
- Cell culture supernatants
- Pathogen lysates
- rDNA products



Autoclave:
Liquid Cycle
(121°C, ≥15 psi, 30-60 min.)

OR (as appropriate)

1 part bleach to 9 parts waste
(30 min. contact time)



Pour down the drain
If void of any regulated chemical/radiological hazard

Medical Sharps:

- Scalpels
- Needles/Syringes:
DO NOT RECAP
- Metal lancets



Medical sharps box
(close when 3/4 full & label box)



Autoclave:
Vacuum/Gravity Cycle
(121°C, ≥15 psi, 60-120 min.)



Dispose as biohazardous waste
(Discard box within 30 days of use)

Bag & Box Labels:

- PI Name
- Lab Location
- Contact Number
- Date

Contaminated Non-medical Sharps:

- Razor blades
- Glass slides
- Pipettes & tips



Hard-sided container
(or Medical sharps box)



Autoclave:
Vacuum/Gravity Cycle
(121°C, ≥15 psi, 60-120 min.)



Dispose as biohazardous waste
(Discard box within 30 days of use)

Non-contaminated Waste:

- **NO** biological materials
- **NO** chemical hazards
- **NO** radioactive materials

Place in a cardboard box lined with a standard plastic bag



Tape shut, label as "Clean Labware", and discard as regular trash

Mixed Hazards Assistance:

- Biological & Chemical → Biosafety (392-1591) or Hazardous Materials (392-8400)
- Biological & Radioactive → Biosafety (392-1591) or Radiation Safety (392-7359)
- Biological & Animal Remains → Biosafety (392-1591) or Animal Care Services (392-2977)

Contacts: