

SHARP WASTE DISPOSAL GUIDE

Sharp Biomedical Waste (BMW)

- All needles, regardless of contamination status
- Any sharp item contaminated with the following:
 - Pathogens infectious to healthy humans
 - Human and non-human primate blood/fluids/tissue/cells
 - Potentially infectious veterinary materials

Sharp Non-Biomedical, Biological Waste

- Sharp items, excluding needles, contaminated with:
- Non-infectious recombinant/synthetic DNA
 - Microorganisms not infectious to humans (risk group 1 agents, including plant and animal pathogens)
 - Presumed healthy animal (excluding NHP) products

SHARP BIOMEDICAL WASTE HANDLING*



Collect in BMW sharps box. Close when 3/4 full, label with PI name, location, phone number, and date.

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

Package in Stericycle lined box. **Label box** with PI name, location, phone number, and date.

NEEDLES NOT CONTAMINATED WITH INFECTIOUS MATERIALS*



Label box with PI name, location, phone number, and date.

Appropriate for the disposal of needles used with chemicals, non-contaminated needles, and unused needles. **No need to autoclave.**

***REQUIRES ANNUAL BIOMEDICAL WASTE TRAINING (EHS851)**

Collect in BMW sharps box. Close when 3/4 full, label with PI name, location, phone number, and date.

Package in Stericycle lined box.

SHARP NON-BIOMEDICAL, BIOLOGICAL WASTE (preferred method)



Collect in sturdy, covered, autoclavable container.

Once full, place container in a clear autoclave bag (DO NOT use bags with a biohazard symbol). Label as "Non-biomedical, biological waste"

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

Dispose in lab trash.

Alternatively, this waste stream may be treated as BMW as outlined above.

NON-CONTAMINATED SHARP WASTE (excluding needles)

- Collect in sturdy, covered container (HDPE preferred).
- Dispose of container in the lab trash.



- Examples include:
- Xacto blades
 - Razor blades
 - Broken glass