

BIO-HAZARDOUS AND MEDICAL WASTE PROGRAM CHANGES EFFECTIVE MAY 28TH 2013

Due to increased costs for the disposal of bio-hazardous and medical waste, all University labs and clinics are required to follow recently developed bio-hazardous waste segregation guidelines. Please view and post the waste segregation guide ([CLICK HERE](#)). To summarize, bio-hazardous and medical waste that must be incinerated (pathological waste, BSL-3, Category A [inactivated], select agent, chemotherapeutic) must be separated from all other lab bio-hazardous and medical waste.

BAR CODE LABEL REQUIRED Bio-hazardous and medical waste container (box, barrel, tote)

Lab personnel will continue to mark generator contact information (name, phone number, building and room number). Additionally, lab personnel will attach an appropriately colored (white or yellow) vendor bar code label to each full bio-hazardous waste container. To obtain these labels visit the Radiation Safety Office located in the Library Commons Building room 102 or e-mail your request to cathy.price@louisville.edu. To view detailed bar code labeling instructions ([CLICK HERE](#)).



1. Medical Waste that is acceptable for Autoclave (Vendor White-colored bar code label)

The following wastes will be sent off-site for disposal via steam-sterilization (autoclave) and landfill.
Waste containers will be bar-coded with a Stericycle white-colored label.

a. Bio-hazardous biological waste

Bio-hazardous biological waste (*that does not contain Category A⁶, CDC select agent, or RG-3 material*) – is material derived from the research and medical treatment of an animal or human, which includes diagnosis and immunization, or from biomedical research, which includes production and testing of biological products. Examples of bio-hazardous waste: tissue culture, microbial cultures and stocks of etiologic agents or recombinant nucleic acids or transgenic materials (plant or animal).

b. Sharps

Sharps (that does not contain Category A6, CDC select agent, or RG-3 material) Examples of sharps: Needles, syringes with attached needles, capillary tubes, slides and cover slips, broken glass, broken rigid plastic, exposed ends of dental wire, scalpel blades, and razor blades. These items shall be placed in a puncture-resistant container with universal biohazard symbol. Full sharps container shall be securely closed prior to placement into a red bagged lined bio-hazardous waste container.

2. Medical Waste that Requires Incineration (Vendor Yellow-colored bar code label)

The following wastes will be sent off-site for disposal via medical waste incineration. **Waste containers will be bar-coded with a Stericycle yellow-colored label.**

a. Pathological (Animal or Human related)

The cost for the incineration of medical and bio-hazardous waste has exponentially increased. Medical and bio-hazardous waste that must be disposed through incineration must be bar-coded with a Stericycle yellow-colored label. To obtain yellow-colored bar code labels, contact DEHS Hazardous Waste Coordinator at 852-2956.

DEHS is striving to stream-line the collection of pathological wastes, such as human and animal parts and specimens, generated by university labs. DEHS is working with the Research Resource Facility (RRF) to stream-line the disposal of all non-fixed animal carcasses and parts. Labs that generate animal carcass and parts waste should bag and take waste to an RRF location for disposal. For the disposal of human specimen parts obtained from the ASNB Fresh Tissue Lab, in accordance with their program policy, all specimens must be returned to the Fresh Tissue Lab. Gross Anatomy lab wastes will continue to be managed for disposal by the Body Bequeathal program.



If your lab generates pathological waste (either human or animal) that does not or cannot be disposed through the RRF or the Fresh Tissue Lab, contact the DEHS Hazardous Waste Coordinator at 852-2956 for assistance.

b. BSL-3, Infectious Category A, and Select Agent

Bio-hazardous waste containing BSL-3, Infectious Category A (must be inactivated prior to discard into red bag) and select agent waste must continue to be incinerated. DEHS Biosafety personnel have identified these lab locations.

c. Trace Chemotherapeutic Drugs

University labs that generate waste containing chemotherapeutic drugs, should contact DEHS Hazardous Waste Coordinator at 852-2956 for further assistance.

Dental School Clinics

The Dental School clinics should follow policy and procedures set up by Dental Infection Control personnel. Stericycle bar code labels can be obtained from Dental School Infection Control office.