

Perelman School of Medicine Smilow Center for Translational Research Infectious Waste Disposal Guide*

* For research laboratories located in the Smilow Center for Translational Research ONLY. Procedures may vary in the hospital, clinical areas or other University spaces. For more information on infectious waste consult the University's Biological Safety Manual (http://www.ehrs.upenn.edu/programs/bio/bio_manual.html), or call EHRs at 215- 898-4453.

Container Type	Glassware/ Plasticware Waste Cardboard Box	Infectious Waste Sharps Containers	Infectious Waste Autoclave Bags	Infectious Waste Liquid Containers	Infectious Waste Bins located in Autoclave Room
Contents	<p>Non-infectious laboratory glassware and plasticware. Chemical bottles must be triple rinsed and label defaced.</p> <p>Line cardboard glassware boxes with a heavy, clear plastic bag.</p> <p>Do not use biohazard boxes or red/orange bags under any circumstances.</p>	<p><u>Infectious waste sharps include:</u> All needles, syringes, and blades; broken or unbroken glass and plasticware that has contacted infectious agents or was used in animal or human patient care or treatment; plastic pipettes and pipette tips.</p> <p><u>Chemical contaminated sharps waste:</u> Segregate from other sharps into purchased sharps containers and label "Chemical Contaminated Sharps Waste-Do Not Autoclave"</p> <p><u>Non-infectious Sharps (needles, syringes, and blades):</u> Dispose in a sharps container through the infectious waste stream. Containers of non-infectious sharps may be discarded as infectious waste without prior autoclaving.</p>	<p>All contaminated laboratory items <u>NOT</u> considered sharps, including used plasticware that is deformed after autoclaving or made of polyethylene (PE), polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and other thermoplastic polymers provided they do not shatter on breakage or are considered unbreakable by the investigator.</p>	<p>Infectious waste fluids (volumes greater than 20 cc).</p>	<p>Infectious waste that has been autoclaved.</p> <p><u>Chemical contaminated sharps containers</u> and <u>Non-infectious sharps containers (with label defaced)</u> that have NOT been autoclaved.</p>
Reusable	NO	<p><u>Reusable sharps containers</u> – YES</p> <p><u>Purchased sharps containers</u> – NO</p>	NO	YES	YES
Disposal Method	<p>Seal box when ¾ full for housekeepers to remove.</p>	<p><u>Reusable sharps containers:</u> vendor will remove full, closed containers and replace with empty ones</p> <p><u>Purchased sharps containers :</u> Infectious Sharps Waste – autoclave containers and discard in infectious waste bins. <u>Chemical contaminated and Non-infectious Sharps Waste (with label defaced) :</u> discard without autoclaving into infectious waste bins.</p>	<p>Autoclave red/orange bag waste and discard in infectious waste bins.</p>	<p>Autoclave liquid or use appropriate disinfectant before pouring into a sanitary sewer drain.</p> <p>The reusable container must be washed and autoclaved before reuse.</p>	<p>Space Planning and Operations empties waste bins regularly.</p>
Container Source	User must purchase.	<p><u>Reusable containers for sharps</u> – delivered by vendor: Curtis Bay (Mrs. Deborah Schlarb-Tisdale @ 610-926-6042)</p> <p><u>Purchased sharps containers</u> – user must purchase</p>	User must purchase.	User must purchase.	Space Planning and Operations (8-8000)

** For more details on how to properly sort and manage disposal of ALL laboratory sharps waste, consult the EHRs LABORATORY SHARPS WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (<http://www.ehrs.upenn.edu/programs/bio/waste/usedsharps.html>)