

KNOW WHERE to THROW!

INFECTIOUS WASTE

RED BAG WASTE



SHARPS CONTAINERS



ARE NOT DISPOSED OF IN:



YOU MUST OBEY THE LAW !

Recently, the University was cited because infectious waste – “red bags” – from University laboratories and clinical areas were found at a Philadelphia waste transfer station. Red bags, both empty and filled, were placed into the regular trash rather than properly disposed of through the University’s infectious waste system. The University takes this matter seriously because it is committed to health, safety and environmental protection.

Orange or red infectious waste bags, buckets or containers, including sharps containers, or anything labeled as infectious waste or with a biohazard label must not be placed in the regular trash. Unused bags or containers and items being discarded with a biohazard label on them, must be discarded as infectious waste. Employees violating these requirements may be subject to disciplinary action.

All trash collected from the University is dumped at a local transfer station and is closely inspected for infectious waste. When infectious waste is found, the transfer station operator must notify the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). DEP personnel are then dispatched to inspect the waste. This can result in Notices of Violation (NOVs) and/or fines being assessed against the University by the DEP. The University school or department identified as the source of the waste is responsible for any emergency pick-up charges from the University’s infectious waste contractor, as well as fines that may be levied by the DEP.

Please review your school’s infectious waste procedures at the EHRs website (<http://www.ehrs.upenn.edu/resources/waste/bio/default.html>).

If you have any questions about the proper disposal procedures for infectious waste please contact Tina Bogac, EHRs Biosafety Officer at 215-746-6706.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR ADVICE CONTACT EHRs at 215-898-4453