

## School of Engineering and Applied Science Laboratories Infectious Waste Disposal Guide\*

\* For research laboratories located in the SEAS Laboratories. More information on waste removal in SEAS can be found at <http://www.seas.upenn.edu/eos/faq.html#waste>. Procedures may vary in 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](http://www.ehrs.upenn.edu/programs/bio/bio_manual.html)), or call EHR at 215-898-4453.

Container Type	Glassware/ Plasticware Waste Cardboard Box	Infectious Waste Sharps Container**	Infectious Waste Red Bags	Infectious Waste Liquid Containers	
<b>Contents</b>	<p>Uncontaminated laboratory glassware and plasticware. Chemical bottles must be triple rinsed and label defaced.</p> <p>Line cardboard glassware boxes with clear, heavy plastic bags.</p> <p><b>Do not use biohazard boxes or red/orange bags under any circumstances.</b></p>	<p><u>Infectious waste sharps including:</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, including plastic pipettes and other used plasticware that is recognizable after autoclaving or made of plastic that shatters on breakage or is considered breakable by the investigator.</p> <p><u>Chemical-contaminated sharps waste:</u> Sharps with minimal chemical contamination may be disposed of in the Reusable Sharps Container. Sharps with larger quantities of residual chemicals must be collected in a hard-sided container (NOT a sharps container) and disposed as chemical waste through EHR's chemical waste pick-up request form.</p> <p><u>Non-infectious Sharps:</u> All needles, syringes, and blades</p> <p><u>All other biologically contaminated laboratory items not considered above:</u> including but not limited to tissue culture flasks, petri dishes, soiled paper products and disposable gloves.</p>		Infectious waste fluids (volumes greater than 20 cc).	
<b>Reusable</b>	NO	YES	NO - small table top containers	NO	YES
<b>Disposal Methods</b>	Seal cardboard box when ¾ full for housekeepers to remove.	Vendor will remove full, closed containers and replace with empty ones. Contact the Building Administrator for more details.	Discard in reusable sharps container.	Discard in reusable sharps container.	Autoclave liquid or use appropriate disinfectant before pouring into a sanitary sewer drain.  The reusable container must be washed and autoclaved before reuse.
<b>Container Source</b>	User must purchase.	<u>Reusable containers for sharps:</u> – delivered by vendor: Curtis Bay (Mr. Jim Frank @ 610-301-2913); contact Building Administrator to set up account.	User must purchase.	User must purchase.	User must purchase.

\*\* NOTE: All sharps must be disposed of in sharps containers at the time of generations and kept there until final destruction. For more details on how to properly sort and manage disposal of all laboratory sharps waste, consult the EHR LABORATORY SHARPS WASTE MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (<http://www.ehrs.upenn.edu/programs/bio/waste/usedsharps.html>).