



Biomedical Waste Disposal



It is the responsibility of **Principal Investigators to ensure waste has been correctly classified and lab personnel** follow the proper procedure.

Purpose

This procedure specifies the requirements for the safe handling and disposal of biomedical waste through the UBC Environmental Services Facility (ESF) to ensure compliance with all legislation.

Scope

Waste Application & Regulations

This procedure applies to uncontaminated and biomedical waste generated from research facilities and laboratories at UBC Point Grey campus.

Biomedical waste is defined in the BC Hazardous Waste Regulation, 2009, Part 1 (1) (b), (d), (f), (g) and (i), and includes the following:

- Human anatomical waste, consisting of human tissues, organs and body parts, but does not include teeth, hair and nails.
- Human blood and body fluid (BBF) waste, consisting of human fluids, blood and blood products, items saturated or dripping with blood, body fluids contaminated with blood and body fluids removed for diagnosis during surgery, treatment or autopsy. This does not include urine or feces.
- Contaminated animal pathological waste, including animal carcasses

Contact the **SRS Advisor, Biological & Radiation Safety** for risk assessments or waste classification and review of relevant information in your approved biosafety protocol.



Does Not Apply

This disposal procedure does NOT apply to the following wastes, covered by different procedures:

- Animal Bedding
- Animal Carcasses (contaminated or uncontaminated)
- Non-Human Primate Waste
- Sharps

Background

Disposal of biomedical waste to regular landfills is prohibited by Metro Vancouver and under the BC Hazardous Waste Regulation 2009. The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment (CCME) Guidelines for the Management of Biomedical Waste in Canada, 1992 define what biomedical waste is, and how it should be handled.



Procedure



Contact our **ESF Technicians** for any questions related to biomedical waste or supplies.



- ✓ Prevent accidental leaking/spillage and contamination during transportation!
- ✓ You **MUST** collect all **biomedical** waste in either red sealed containers or red biohazard bags - use one of the following 2 options:
 - 1) **RED buckets with a biohazard symbol**, which are lined with plastic bags and have sealable lids – provided by ESF (from UBC’s biomedical waste contractor).
 - ✓ Must be used for all liquid biomedical waste (including **blood tubes** or **blood bags**).
 - ✓ Ensure the lids are sealed properly. Sealed containers do not need to be frozen.
 - ✓ Contact ESF to request red buckets (containers) with lids.
 - 2) **RED autoclavable bags with a biohazard symbol** - can be purchased from a laboratory supplier.
 - ✓ Must be used **ONLY** for solid, non-leaking biomedical waste (eg. **solid waste contaminated with blood**).
 - ✓ Must **NOT** be used for any laboratory glassware (eg. glass tubes with blood).
 - ✓ All biomedical waste **MUST** be **double bagged**. Triple bag waste if necessary.
 - ✓ Store biomedical waste bags in the **freezer** located in your building’s designated waste area for scheduled pick-up by ESF.
 - ✓ Ensure bags are frozen and do **NOT** leak. Leaking bags will **NOT** be picked-up.
 - ✓ Ensure bags are not larger than packing box dimensions. ESF must be able to package red bags into a cardboard biomedical waste box 24”(L)x18”(H)x13”(W) available from UBC’s biomedical waste contractor.
- ✓ Ensure each sealed container or bag does not weigh more than **10 kg**.
- ✓ Attach a **Biological Waste Disposal Tag (Red)** shown below to each red container/bag.
- ✓ Affix your waste generator barcode sticker.
- ✓ On the tag check the appropriate “**Biomedical**” box, and fill out all requested information.
 - Check **ONE** waste content per tag only!
- ✓ Order your generator barcodes and disposal tags online via HWIS.



Biological Waste Disposal Tag



BIOLOGICAL WASTE DISPOSAL

The University of British Columbia, Environmental Services Facility

Parcel Identification No:

BIOLOGICAL WASTE DISPOSAL



Parcel Identification No:

GENERATOR TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION ONLY

AFFIX IDENTIFICATION BARCODE LABEL HERE

WASTE CONTENT

Autoclaved Risk Group 1 Autoclaved Risk Group 2

BIOMEDICAL

Animal Carcasses Uncontaminated Animal Carcasses Contaminated

Animal Blood & Body Fluids Sharps

Human Anatomical Pharmaceuticals (non-narcotic)

Human Blood & Body Fluids Controlled drugs (destroyed)*

Primates* Contaminated solid waste*

Other * _____

* Contact ESF

Office use only:

Weight _____ Kg



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