



Biological Waste Management



Procedures for Indiana University Bloomington

The biological waste management program at IUB is administered by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) in accordance with state regulation 410 IAC 1-3, other applicable regulations, and University policies developed by the IUB Biosafety Office (BSO) and the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC).

Biohazardous waste subject to these procedures is broadly defined as all biological waste (or biologically contaminated waste) that is potentially harmful to humans, animals, or plants or that contains human tissues, fluids, or cell lines; or that contains genetically modified organisms, cells, or fluids (including biosafety level 1 recombinant DNA waste). It also includes food, water, and bedding from animal cages that house experimentally infected animals in ABSL-2 containment animal rooms.

Contact the BSO at biosafe@indiana.edu for the ABSL-2 animal cage autoclave protocol. For additional information or clarification on these procedures contact EHS at uehs@indiana.edu or the BSO at 856-5360 or at biosafe@indiana.edu.

Animal Carcasses and Tissues **It is the policy of the BSO that ALL research animals whether infectious, transgenic, domestic, or wild be treated as biohazardous for disposal.*

1. Place carcasses and tissues in a red or orange bag with a biohazard symbol. Double bag or box if necessary to ensure perforations do not occur.
2. Seal bag, complete and affix a "BIOHAZARD" waste tag, and place in a freezer. Follow instructions below to request a pickup.

Biohazardous Sharps (razor blades, syringes, broken glassware, glass or plastic pipettes, or anything else that may puncture a trash bag and cause injury)

1. Place all sharps in a puncture-proof container – either a commercially available sharps container or a sturdy cardboard box. Seal the container or box and attach a strip of autoclave tape.
2. After autoclaving, mark out or remove any biohazard symbols and place in building dumpster. If using a cardboard box, tape seams before placing in dumpster. **If a red sharps container has been used, it must be disposed with EHS. Follow instructions below to request a pickup or deliver to EHS.*

Biohazardous Liquids (bacterial cultures, human cells or fluids, transgenic animal cells or fluids, or liquids with BSL-1 recombinant DNA)

1. Decontaminate by treatment with an appropriate chemical disinfectant. Contact the BSO for specific procedures.
2. After decontamination, dispose of treated liquids down the drain to the sanitary sewer.

Biohazardous Solids (petri plates, culture flasks or bottles, plastic, or paper contaminated with biohazardous materials or BSL-1 recombinant DNA or ABSL-2 animal bedding)

1. Place solid waste in clear autoclave bags (do not use red/orange biohazard bags), seal, and attach a strip of autoclave tape.
2. After autoclaving, mark out or remove all biohazard labels or tags and place bag in the non-hazardous solid waste stream, according to building requirements.

** Disposal of waste that is radioactive is addressed in the IUB Radiation Safety Manual. Disposal of waste that is not biohazardous or radioactive is addressed in the IUB Hazardous Waste Management Guide.*

Pickups for frozen waste in all locations must be requested online at the EHS website. Go to www.ehs.indiana.edu and complete the online request form by clicking on the "Request Assistance" link and choosing "Request a waste pickup." Frozen waste pickups will generally be done on Tuesday mornings. Sharps in red containers from Simon Hall and Chemistry should be brought to a scheduled waste collection in CH A027. Other locations must request a pickup online. Refer to the current *Waste Collection Schedule* available at the EHS website for pickup and scheduled collection dates and times.