Central Michigan University

INFECTIONOUS WASTE DISPOSAL FLOW CHART

Does the waste contain any radioactive materials (e.g., 14C, 51Cr, 125I, 32P, 33P, 35S, 3H)?

No

Does the waste contain any hazardous chemicals (e.g., formaldehyde, polyacrylamide, drugs, toxins, etc.)?

No

Does the waste contain medical sharps (e.g., hypodermic needles, syringes, scalpel blades)?

No

Does the waste contain non-medical sharps that have been in contact with infectious material (e.g., plastic pipette tips, pipettes contaminated with human blood)?

No

Does the waste contain non-contaminated, nonmedical sharps (e.g., plastic pipette tips, microscope slides, cover slips, glass pipettes, applicator sticks)?

No

Does the waste contain animal carcasses, tissues or organs that have been contaminated with infectious organisms (e.g., production biologicals, or identifiable tissues used in the testing of pharmaceuticals)?

No

Does the waste contain infectious human material (e.g., human blood, human blood products, unidentifiable human tissues, human cell lines)?

No

Does the waste contain cultures of infectious organisms, genetically altered living organisms, live or attenuated vaccines, or recombinant DNA organisms?

No

Does the waste contain infectious or potentially infectious organisms, devices contaminated with infectious organisms, or equipment contaminated with infectious organisms?

No

Yes

Dispose as RADIOACTIVE waste. Contact the Radiation Safety Officer Jennifer Walton @774-4189 for more information.

Yes

Dispose as CHEMICAL waste. Contact the Hazardous Waste Coordinator, Jaime Stock @ 774-3378

Procedures for disposal of medical/infectious sharps:
1. Waste must be collected in a puncture-resistant sharps container labeled with the biohazard symbol.
2. When 3/4 full or in use 90 days, take the sharps container to the medical waste storage room.
3. Dispose of the biohazard bags into a biological burn box provided by our medical waste disposal vendor.
4. Contact your building’s waste coordinator if there are questions.

Procedures for disposal of non-medical sharps:
1. Collect non-medical sharps in a puncture-resistant container (e.g., cardboard box, coffee can, glass disposal box).
2. Close and seal the container when it is 3/4 full.
3. Dispose of container in the trash.

Procedure for disposal of pathological waste:
1. Place waste in red biohazard bags.
2. Store materials to prevent putrefying.
3. Take materials to the medical waste storage room.
4. Dispose of the biohazard bags into a biological burn box provided by our medical waste disposal vendor.
5. Contact your building’s waste coordinator if there are questions.

Follow these procedures for the proper treatment and disposal of infectious waste:
1. Collect the infectious waste in a red, high strength polymer autoclave bag or leak-proof autoclavable container if liquid.
2. Remove all biohazard labels. Ensure that words like “pathogenic,” “infectious” or “biohazardous” have been removed from all materials and equipment.
3. Autoclave the waste in a spore-tested autoclave for 45 minutes at 121°C.
4. Allow the waste to cool.
5. Place the autoclave bag into a black, opaque, trash bag. Ensure that the contents do not puncture the trash bags. Drain dispose any liquids.
6. Place the bags in an approved location (e.g., dumpster).
7. Contact the Biological Safety Officer Tom Schultz @ 774-3279 if you have questions.

Trash disposal is permitted!