

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE  
BIOLOGICAL WASTE HANDLING GUIDE

Number





clipping, breaking, and recapping of needles is not recommended. Sharps containers should not be filled more than 2/3 full. After use, the container needs to be closed and the OEHS contacted for a pick-up. To comply with the 90-day storage limit, contact the OEHS for pick-up as soon as possible. Never place any type of sharps in the trash.

Contaminated Solid Waste

Contaminated solid waste includes cloth, plastic and paper items that have been exposed to agents infectious or hazardous to humans, animals or plants. These contaminated items shall be placed in biohazard bags and decontaminated by autoclaving. Double or triple bagging may be required to avoid rupture or puncture of the bags. Contaminated Pasteur pipettes are considered sharps and need to be disposed of in a sharps container.

**Waste Specific Procedures for Biosafety Level (BL-3)**

All biohazardous waste including RG-2 and 3 agents that are handled at BL-3 is to be autoclaved at the point of origin (laboratory, or facility). Transportation of non-autoclaved BL-3 waste outside of the facility is generally not permitted.

*Animal Waste*

*3 waste sharps (BL-3) (L) (U) (S) (E) (D) (3 w) 16(as*

radioisotopes with uncontaminated waste. Pathological wastes containing radioactive materials shall also be labeled with a radioactive waste tag.

*Human Waste*

Collect human pathological waste in leak-proof containers labeled with the

