



Waste Disposal Guide for Burke Laboratories

(Waste Disposal Manual: <http://www.weill.cornell.edu/ehs/manuals/5.2WasteDisposal.pdf>)

SHARPS DISPOSAL

- **Sharps Defined:** includes any glass, metal or plastic instruments and items that have the potential to cut or abrade skin. This includes blood vials or tubes (<100mL), broken and unbroken biologically contaminated glassware, glass slides, pipettes and pipette tips, needles, razors blades, syringes and scalpels.
- **Sharps Container Safety:** Do NOT overfill sharps containers. Close lid when not in use.
- **Collection Requests:** To request a collection, submit an online Sharps Collection Request Form: <http://www.weill.cornell.edu/ehs/forms/sharps.htm>. Please note the number of *Large* (17 gal.) & *Regular* (10 gal.) sharps containers & indicate **Burke** as the department. Additional empty sharps containers can also be requested in the comments section of Sharps Collection Form.
- **Collection:** Sharps are collected by request every Wednesday and Thursday by EHS.
- **Sharps Contaminated with Infectious Agents:** Sharps contaminated with infectious agents, such as lentivirus, **must** be chemically disinfected prior to placement into a **reusable** sharps container OR the sharps **must** be autoclaved inside of a single use, disposable sharps container prior to shipment offsite by vendor.
- **Sharps Contaminated with Chemicals:** Sharps contaminated with hazardous chemicals must be placed inside a rigid container & labeled with a Green Hazardous Waste Label listing all constituents. Dispose as chemical waste via EHS.



REGULATED MEDICAL WASTE = RED BAG WASTE

- **Red Bag Waste Defined:** includes solid, non-sharps & non-chemical waste, tissue culture waste, small amounts of unrecognizable animal tissue, and debris contaminated with biological material.
- **Red Bag Safety:** Do NOT place sharps into red bags. Red bags must NOT be leaking or left in public corridors. Double bag when bagging saturated material.
- **Red Bag Procedures:** red bags must be contained & transported within a rigid, non-leaking container. Use only approved bags labeled with a *Biohazard Symbol*.
- **Red Bag Disposal:** Deposit red bags into the large cylindrical bins located at the first floor rear entrance or the second floor front entrance of the Molecular Labs. Bags will then be autoclaved prior to shipment offsite by the vendor.



CHEMICAL WASTE DISPOSAL

- **Chemical Waste Defined:** includes all chemical wastes (unless EHS-approved for drain disposal) and empty containers of acutely-toxic chemicals. Chemical wastes **must** be disposed through EHS.
- **Chemical Waste Procedures:** Chemical waste must be placed into compatible and sealable containers; labeled with a Green Hazardous Waste Label including a listing of constituents; and stored in secondary containment in a designated Chemical Waste Satellite Accumulation Area (CWSAA). Containers must remain closed when not in use.
- **Collection Requests:** submit an online Chemical Collection Request Form found here: <http://www.weill.cornell.edu/ehs/chemwaste>. Additional Hazardous Waste labels and Chemical Waste Satellite Accumulation Area signs can also be requested with this form.
- **Collection:** Chemical wastes are collected by request every Wednesday and Thursday.

HAZARDOUS WASTE	
Burke Medical Research Institute	
Contact Name:	
Chemical Name(s):	
For assistance, contact Environmental Health and Safety. http://www.weill.cornell.edu/ehs ehs@med.cornell.edu or 646-962-7233 (1-7233)	

DRAIN, TRASH, EMPTY CONTAINER AND OTHER WASTE DISPOSAL

- **Drain Disposal of Chemicals:** Only EHS-approved non-hazardous liquid chemicals may be drain disposed. Refer to the EHS Waste Disposal Manual for the list of approved Non-Hazardous chemicals for drain disposal.
- **DEA-Controlled Substances:** Contact EHS to arrange for the disposal of DEA-controlled substances.
- **Normal Trash:** Standard laboratory articles (e.g., gloves, pads) contaminated or uncontaminated with non-hazardous chemicals may be disposed via the normal trash. Trash is collected every evening by Housekeeping Staff.
- **Empty Bottle Procedures:** Empty plastic & glass bottles previously containing non-acutely toxic chemicals must be triple rinsed prior to recycling. Deface labels, remove lids & place into blue recycling bins in hallways/receiving dock.
- **Electronics:** Electrical equipment containing circuit boards must be recycled. For removal of electronics with sensitive data (e.g., computers, copiers and electronic data storage devices) contact Leo (Manuel) Cepeda: 914-597-2885 or x2885. For the removal of all other electronics, contact William (Liam) Duggan: 914-368-3124 or x3124.
- **Light Bulbs:** For the disposal of light bulbs, contact William (Liam) Duggan, 914-368-3124 or x3124.

WASTE DISPOSAL QUESTIONS OR ASSISTANCE