


The Bucket List

Guidelines to segregate laboratory waste



The orange bag

- For solid biohazardous waste materials
- e.g.: tips, plates, gloves, tubes
- NO** sharp, anatomical or chemical material
- Fill out label before use: 
- Bags purchased by the lab




The orange bag for serological pipettes

- For biohazardous serological pipettes ONLY
- NO** sharp, anatomical or chemical material
- Stack pipettes and tape bag to prevent them from moving and puncturing the bag
- Fill out label before use: 
- Bags purchased by the lab




The yellow sharps container (4.5L)

- For biohazardous sharp waste
- e.g.: needles, syringes, Pasteur pipettes
- Fill out the label before use: 
- Request pickup and replacement container from [Enviro](#)




The yellow pail (23L)

- For biohazard materials contaminated with chemicals that CANNOT be autoclaved
- e.g.: Agar plates + antibiotics, Cells + DMSO
- Fill out the label before use: 
- Request pickup and replacement container from [Enviro](#)




The white sharps container (4.5L)

- For hazardous (chemically contaminated) sharp waste
- e.g.: blades, needles, microscope slides
- Fill out the label before use: 
- Request pickup and replacement container from [Enviro](#)




The black (20L) and white (5L) pail

- For hazardous (chemically contaminated) solid waste
- e.g.: EtBr gels, tubes, tips, pipettes, gloves
- Fill out the label before use: 
- Request pickup and replacement container from [Enviro](#)



The white carboy (10L/20L)

- For hazardous (chemical) liquid waste
- Segregate chemicals based on compatibility: buffer waste, bleach waste, acid waste, oil waste, organic solvents, etc.
- Fill out the label before use: 
- Request pickup and replacement container from [Enviro](#)



The regular garbage

- For non-hazardous waste
- e.g.: pipette wraps, uncontaminated paper towels or gloves
- Provided by Housekeeping



The broken glass box

- For non-hazardous broken glass
- e.g.: clean broken beaker
- Lab can buy a broken glass box or use a cardboard box labelled "Broken Glass-Garbage"



The blue bin

- For paper ONLY
- Leave cardboard boxes beside bins or at designated areas
- Provided by Housekeeping



The brown bin

- For non-hazardous plastic (#1 and #5 only) or metal waste
- e.g.: Aluminum foil (rolled in a ball), **TRIPLE RINSED** PBS or media bottles
- Provided by Housekeeping



The electronic recycling bin

- For decommissioned electronic waste
- e.g.: computers, small scientific equipment (NO refrigerant)
- Managed by Facility

For more information:
enviro@uottawa.ca

bio.safety@uottawa.ca
sst-ohs@uOttawa.ca

Other wastes:
Radiation: rad.safety@uottawa.ca
Anatomical: acvs@uottawa.ca

Solid Waste Flow Chart

Waste

Examples

Containers

Disposal

Biohazardous

Mixed (Biohazard + Chemical)

Chemical

Non-Hazardous



Serological pipettes



Solid Waste



Sharps

Is the biohazardous material **destroyed** by the chemical?

NO !

e.g.: Agar plates + antibiotics, cells + DMSO

?

YES !

e.g.: Cells + lysis buffer/PFA/TriZol
Cells/viruses + 10% bleach

Validate with
Biosafety Specialist
bio.safety@uottawa.ca



Solid Waste



Sharps



Original containers
(empty/in use)



Broken Glass



Solid Waste



bio.safety@uottawa.ca



Example of
Biohazard bag
drop-off stations

Please read the instruction
signs posted at the
stations

Keep in lab and
request pickup
from **Enviro**:



- Seal box with tape
- Label the box
« **Broken Glass – Garbage** »
- Place the box beside a regular garbage for collection by Housekeeping

- Brown bins = recyclable plastic (#1 and #5) and metal (**TRIPLE RINSED**)
- Blue bins = paper **ONLY** Leave cardboard boxes *beside* blue bins
- Paper towel can be composted
- Housekeeping empties bins

Liquid Waste Flow Chart

