

## ATRF Janitorial Waste Disposal

- 1) **Regular Black Bag Waste** consists of any non-hazardous, non-infectious waste disposed in any areas of the facility. Regular black bag waste may be seen in laboratories as well. Any wastes involved in non-hazardous, non-infections lab work may be disposed of in the regular black bag waste at the ATRF. Labs performing their own sterilization of autoclave waste will sometimes dispose of the sterilized bags in a black bag for disposal in the regular waste stream (facility dumpsters located behind wing B).
- 2) **Autoclave** bags are clear and have a biohazard symbol on them. Most labs will autoclave their own waste but several will be assisted by the Service Workers who will collect the autoclave waste in 5-gallon buckets and transport them to waste room B1505. The Service staff will also collect the sterilized bags after the labs autoclave them and place in the dumpster. Most labs will place the sterilized autoclave waste in a black bag first to eliminate confusion. Black bags will mean they are ready for disposal in the regular waste dumpster.

Some labs seal autoclavables, such as pipettes used with infections materials, inside cardboard boxes before placing into autoclave bags. Service workers are allowed to handle the bag as long as all waste material is inside the boxes.

**Service Workers DO NOT handle any unsterilized autoclave bags not in these buckets, or that have no boxed waste inside!**



- 3) **Biohazard boxes** are cardboard with a red bag liner and **CANNOT be autoclaved** or the plastic liner melts and clogs drains. Broken glass, sharps containers and some other misc items (infectious waste that can not be autoclaved) will go in them and there shouldn't be very many per week. The Service staff will collect the full, appropriately closed and sealed, boxes from the labs (lab staff must close and tape top and bottom) and place in the medical waste storage room B1505.



- 4) **Sharps containers** must be used for all needles, scalpels, and any broken glass that came in contact with infectious materials, such as blood. The lab people will place sharps containers into the biohazard boxes when  $\frac{3}{4}$  full. **Sharps containers CANNOT be autoclaved.**

**Service workers are not to touch the sharps containers!**



- 5) **Broken glass boxes** are used with black bags for any glass (usually broken) that has only been in contact with non-hazardous materials. These boxes may be disposed of in the regular trash.



- 6) **Proper pipette tip disposal: (if non-infectious or non-hazardous ONLY)**

Small pipette tips should not be disposed of in the small office type trash cans with the thin black trash bag liners. They will puncture through the liners. However, these tips may be placed in the large thicker black trash bags.

Large pipette tips should first be boxed in a sturdy container such as a cardboard box and closed properly before being placed into the large back trash bags.

