

# Safetygram

NCI-Frederick

ISM-174

Laboratory Personnel

March 2013

## Medical Waste Disposal at FNLCR

**At FNLCR**, medical waste is defined as any material, which may be contaminated with potentially infectious material. It also includes waste that may be perceived as medical waste and so it applies to items that are not necessarily infectious.

- Examples include gloves, tubing, culture tubes, beakers, flasks, petri dishes, and pipettes.
- Materials containing blood, serum or other body fluids must be disinfected by autoclaving or using chemical disinfectants before being taken out of the building for pickup and disposal. *Do not autoclave regular plastic bags!* Autoclave bags are available from the warehouse, item # SPWH81051031
- All **sharps** (needles, syringes, scalpels and broken glass contaminated with blood) must be placed in a special sharps containers. Two sizes of sharps containers SPWH 66401505 (5 gal.) and SPWH 66401504 (9.5 qt.) are stocked in the warehouse
- **Solid** medical waste should be collected in lined biohazardous boxes, available from the warehouse, catalog # SPWH66401506.
- Red bags may be used for gloves, paper, bench-kote, and other soft or rounded items that won't poke through a plastic bag. These are available from the warehouse, catalog # SPWH81051031

After autoclaving, bags must be placed in the gray carts marked for medical waste only. These carts are picked up by the U. S. Army Garrison personnel for incineration. *Do not place medical waste in any dumpster or on the ground!* Medical waste should only be handled by trained laboratory personnel. Custodial personnel are not permitted nor should they be asked to handle autoclavable waste - unless it has been placed in a designated red can or red cart that can be autoclaved without direct handling

Wastes containing **animals, animal tissue, and other anatomical** or pathological material must be packaged in a leak proof bag or container, hard frozen and placed in special carts marked "ANIMAL". Animal carts are emptied before 10 am daily, call (301) 619-2323 if further information is needed.

Waste generated off NCI Frederick should not be brought onto Fort Detrick for disposal.

Questions? Call EHS (x1451) or see web site <http://home.ncifcrf.gov/ehs/ehs.asp?id=69>