

Biohazard Waste Collection

Description

Option of having laboratory generated Biohazard Waste (red bags, and sharps containers) collected on a weekly basis is now available. The collection will occur once a week, the day will be determined by the location of the generated waste. The goal is to reduce the use of autoclaves for biohazard waste processing.

Benefits to the Campus

- No cost to laboratories
- No need to create WASTE Labels for biohazard bags
- No need to autoclave Biohazard waste before disposing of biohazard bags into barrels
- Reduce cost of maintaining Autoclaves
 - No spore testing for autoclaves
 - No air quality issues due to biohazard autoclaving
- Assurance that labs are in compliance with Medical Waste Management Act storage requirements

Request Service

Please contact UCR Environmental Health and Safety Hazardous Waste Management for a **walk-through** to determine location of accumulation area and discuss specific lab needs. During the walk-through lab requirements, scheduling and volume of waste generated will be discussed.

Please contact Juan Sanchez juan.c.sanchez@ucr.edu or (951) 827-2648, radiobiowastepickup@ucr.edu (951)827-5528.

Packaging and Labeling

Before placing waste into biohazard bags, the bags require the **lab's Name and location** clearly written on them.

- No **WASTE** label is required for biohazard bags.
- Biohazard Sharps containers will require to be **closed** and have a **WASTE** label before placing directly in red barrels.
- Biohazard bags must be closed with either autoclave tape or zip ties.
- Place red biohazard bags in a rigid, leak proof red barrels with a tight-fitting lid.
 - These red barrels will be provided by EHS.
 - Barrels should not be overfilled.

Storage

Red biohazard barrels can be stored within labs or in secure accumulation areas that will be serviced weekly, this will be determined by the specific needs and space availability of the labs. These barrels will be on wheels for easy movability.

EH&S will collect full bins and replace them with new empty bins on the scheduled collection day.

- Designated Waste Accumulation Areas
 - Shall be secured so as to deny access to unauthorized persons and shall be marked with warning signs. "CAUTION – BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA – UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP

Biohazard Waste Collection

OUT” and “CUIDADO – ZONA DE RESIDUOS – BIOLÓGICOS PELIGROSOS – PROHIBIDA LA ENTRADA A PERSONAS NO AUTORIZADAS”

- Empty bins may **only** be moved from accumulation during the transfer of waste into the bin. They must be returned to the designated area immediately following the transfer.
- These areas can be used by multiple biohazard waste generators.
- Lab to Lab Service (Interim Storage Area)
 - If a waste accumulation area cannot be identified, EH&S will provide lab-to-lab service.
 - Shall be stored in an area that is locked or under direct supervision or surveillance by the generator.
 - Area should be marked with warning signs.
 - Will be provided to labs that do not have access to an accumulation area or have safety issues with transporting their waste to such an area.

Please refer to UCR EHS [Biohazardous and Medical Waste Requirements](#) poster for further disposal requirements.