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# The Waste-Paper

*“A Waste is a terrible thing to mind”*

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Volume 18 Issue 8

August 2015

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## Sharps Disposal

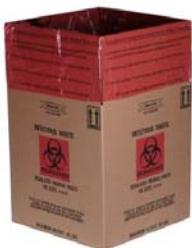
### *Updated Disposal Guidelines for Blades and Syringe Needles*

As responsible stewards of safety and the environment, EHS now requests that **all** razors and syringe needles used in Science and Engineering buildings are disposed of in regulated medical waste sharps collection and disposal systems.

The regulated medical waste sharps collection and disposal systems, or sharps containers, can be purchased at the Engineering Quadrangle, Lewis Thomas Laboratory, and Frick Chemistry Laboratory stock rooms. The containers are also available from Fisher Scientific and other laboratory supply companies.



[Sharps](#), as categorized by New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), require storage and disposal in sharps containers. If you conduct research with BSL 1 or 2 material, recombinant or synthetic nucleic acid molecules, human or animal tissues or cells, the following used or unused items must be disposed of as sharps: hypodermic needles, syringes, Pasteur pipettes, pipette tips, scalpel blades, blood vials, carpules, and razor blades. Glass slides and cover slips that have contacted infectious agents are also considered regulated medical sharps.



When sharps containers are 2/3 to 3/4 full, close and lock the lid, label the locked sharps container and place in regulated medical waste boxes for final disposal. Regulated medical waste boxes and 'red bag' liners are available through stock rooms or from Building Services. To request supplies from Building Services simply call the Facilities Hotline at 258-8000.

In consideration of and care for our Building Services employees please also consider placing other non-regulated potentially sharp objects or items that can puncture plastic bags in rigid containers before disposal in the trash. Plastic auto-pipette tips used with non-biohazardous solutions or chemicals can still penetrate trash liners and scratch employees during trash handling. EHS recommends placing these items in rigid containers such as a cardboard box, or other rigid, empty product container.

## Laboratory Glassware Boxes

Lab glassware boxes are used to collect non-contaminated laboratory glassware prior to disposal in regular trash/refuse. The purpose of the boxes is two-fold; first, to provide a safe and disposable receptacle, more rigid than a trash liner, and to clearly separate non-recyclable glass from recycled glass (i.e., bottles and cans).

Tempered borosilicate and soda-lime glass, both Pyrex® and other brands, must be disposed of in lab glass boxes. Glass of this type has a considerably higher melt temperature and cannot be recycled comingled with non-tempered glass.

Some examples of glassware that should be disposed of in lab glass boxes are beakers, Erlenmeyer and round-bottom flasks, Pyrex dishes, experimental columns, condensers, and bubblers. All glassware items must be free of hazardous material contamination prior to placing in lab glass receptacles.

Clean broken glassware and slides (can also be placed in the lab glass boxes. If broken glassware is contaminated with hazardous material, it must be disposed of via the [hazardous waste program](#). If glass is utilized in human or animal research or contaminated with infectious agents, it must be disposed via the [regulated medical waste program](#).



## Mercury Lamps

### *Packaging for Building Services*

Mercury vapor containing bulbs and lamps are used throughout the University including within the research laboratories. New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) regulates the disposal of mercury containing lamps under the Universal Waste Rule.

For researchers, this means that any intact mercury containing bulbs or lamps in need of disposal may be submitted to a Building Services Custodian. Call the Facilities Hotline at 609-258-8000 to coordinate collection of unwanted, intact mercury containing bulbs or lamps.



Please contact Building Services proactively and in a timely manner when discarding mercury containing bulbs or lamps. This will ensure compliance with state and federal hazardous materials regulations.

Building Services manages only unbroken/intact lamps and bulbs. If a bulb is broken, the broken pieces should be collected in a sealable container (e.g., zip-top bag) and then carefully placed in a rigid outer container (e.g., cardboard box) so that exposure to contamination and sharp edges is minimized. The outer container should then be labeled as "Hazardous Waste – Mercury contaminated debris" preferably using an EHS hazardous waste label.

The hazardous waste container may then be submitted at the next hazardous waste drop-off.

## Leaving Summer Research

It is greatly appreciated and expected that researchers preparing to leave campus after using Princeton University labs to engage in summer research programs, take care of any waste and research materials prior to their exit. The following are general guidelines to be followed prior to leaving campus to ensure no problems are left for lab mates and those who follow.

### Chemicals

- Ensure all containers of chemicals are clearly labeled – full chemical names in English
- Transfer responsibility for samples and reagents that you are leaving behind
- Arrange with EHS for shipment of chemicals/reagents to your new institution
- Bring full waste collection containers to the monthly waste pickup, or make arrangements for others to do so.

### Gas Cylinders

- Arrange return of cylinders to specialty gas suppliers
- Contact EHS for disposal/re-use options for non-returnable cylinders

### Biological Materials

- Collect sharps in a sharps containers, place full sharps containers in medical waste box
- Dispose of human and animal tissue in medical waste boxes
- Collect tissue preservatives and dispose through hazardous waste program
- Autoclave biohazardous waste when appropriate
- Decontaminate surfaces where biohazards have been handled with appropriate disinfectant.
- Close and label any full medical waste boxes and ensure they are removed from the lab.

### Controlled Substances (DEA drugs)

- Contact EHS at least three weeks in advance for DEA controlled substance destruction.

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- Transfer of DEA regulated controlled substances to another individual or lab group **must be reviewed and approved in advance** by EHS.

### Radioactive Materials (RAM)

- Place RAM in radioactive waste containers and arrange for removal to radioactive waste storage facility
- Contact EHS to arrange removal of lead pigs, bricks, shielding, source containers

<b><i>EHS HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTACTS</i></b>	
Main Office	8-5294
Kyle Angjelo (Chemical Waste)	8-2711
Sue Dupre (Radioactive Waste)	8-6252
Tom Drexel (Waste-Paper)	8-6255
Jacqueline Wagner (Biohazardous Waste)	8-1427
EHS Web Page -	<a href="http://ehs.princeton.edu">http://ehs.princeton.edu</a>

### ***August's Waste Disposal Drop Off: Wednesday, August 26, 2015***

#### ***Lewis Thomas loading dock***

- Collection room open from 2:00-4:00 PM
- Coordinators: [Michael Fredericks](#) (8-1351) and [Bob Koenigsmark](#) (8-4123)

#### ***E-Quad room 7 (E-Quad and Bowen)***

- 2:00-3:00 PM Coordinators: [Joe Laskow](#) (8-4739) [Phil Curry](#) or [Anthony Schulz](#) (8-4563)

#### ***Jadwin Hall/Frick Chemistry***

- 9:00-10:00 AM Coordinator: [Phil Fairall](#) (8-3913)

#### ***Hoyt Laboratory/185 Nassau***

- Waste collection is on an as-needed basis.
- Contact [Kyle Angjelo](#) (8-2711) to make arrangements