Sharps & Laboratory Glass

NEEDLES & OTHER SHARPS

**Sharps:** are items designed to cut or puncture skin and sharp items contaminated with human blood and body fluids.

- Needles and syringes with needles
- Lancets
- Scalpels and razor blades

Band-Aids, tissues, and paper towels should **not** go in a sharps box, even if they are contaminated with blood.

**Sharps Container:** Closable, puncture resistant, leak-proof, plastic sharps container.

- Can be found in first floor restrooms of every campus buildings

**Disposal Procedure:**

When full, contact Environmental Protection for disposal and replacement.

hazwaste@uwm.edu

DANGEROUS GLASS & PLASTIC

**Hazardous Glass and Plastic:** Although they pose a puncture threat, they should not go in a sharps box.

- Pipettes and tips
- Uncontaminated slides and coverslips
- Broken or fragile glass

Broken glass and plastic requires no special container. A sturdy cardboard box will do.

**Sturdy, Leak-Proof Cardboard Boxes:**

- Use plastic liner.
- Decontaminate infectious agents or human blood.
- Empty chemical contents into other containers.

**Disposal Procedure:**

- Tape box closed using packing tape.
- Mark box with the words "Hazardous Glass for Disposal."
- Place by normal trash.

EMPTY BOTTLES, OTHER GLASS & PLASTIC

**Unbroken Glass and Plastic:** Items that present no hazard if disposed of as normal trash

- Petri dishes (decontaminated)
- Sturdy test and centrifuge tubes
- Empty bottles

Large bottles should be recycled or reused as waste containers.

**Regular Lab Wastebasket**

**Disposal Procedure:**

- If contaminated with infectious agents or human blood, decontaminate first.
- Empty the item of hazardous chemicals, rinse, and drain liquids.
- Place in wastebasket.

Questions or Concerns?

Contact Environmental Protection

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