

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY

INFECTIOUS/BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE PROCEDURES for BSL1 and BSL2 LABS

Type of Waste	Safety Level	Proper Collection & Labeling in the Lab		Decontamination Method	Disposal After Decontamination
Liquid	BSL1 + BSL2	 Use plastic, leakproof labware which can be sealed. All liquid collection containers must be labeled with the biohazard symbol. Glassware may be used if necessary. 		Autoclave or inactivate with an appropriate amount of a commercially available disinfectant (i.e., adding bleach to make a 10% solution)	This may go down the drain.
Solids	BSL1	 Use <u>clear autoclave bags (no symbol)</u> contained within collection receptacles with lids; lids remain closed. <u>Collection receptacles</u> must be labeled with the biohazard symbol ¹/₁₀₀ 		Autoclave using an externally placed Class 1 and internally placed Class 5 Chemical Indicator.	Place in the regular trash.
	BSL2	 Use <u>orange autoclave bags</u> contained within collection receptacles with lids; lids remain closed. Both <u>bags and receptacles</u> must be labeled with the biohazard symbol ⁽¹⁾/₍₂₎ 		Autoclave using an externally placed Class 1 and internally placed Class 5 Chemical Indicator.	Place in Regulated Medical Waste box lined with a red biohazard bag, for pick up by EHSS. NO ORANGE OR RED BAGS IN THE REGULAR TRASH.
Sharps	BSL1 + BSL2	• Use red, hard plastic Sharps containers with spill-proof lids & biohazard label		Autoclave using an externally placed Class 1 and internally placed Class 5 Chemical Indicator.	Place in Regulated Medical Waste box lined with a red biohazard bag, for pick up by EHSS. NO ORANGE OR RED BAGS IN THE REGULAR TRASH.
Biohazardous Waste – Any waste capable of causing disease in humans, animals, or plants, or harming the environment.		Chemical Indicator – Device used to monitor the attainment of one or more of the autoclave operating parameters required for effective sterilization.	Decontamination – A procedure which reduces the level of microbial contamination thereby eliminating the risk of transmission of infection.	Sharps – Needles, glass slides, tubes, broken plastic, blades, swabs, and other material which can puncture an autoclave bag.	Regulated Medical Waste – Waste that may contain biological agents capable of transmitting an infectious disease in humans.