ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY FACT SHEET

SHARPS

Always exercise extreme caution when handling and disposing of laboratory sharps. Contaminated needles and syringes are a major source of hazardous exposures to biological agents. Improper handling of these sharps can lead to infections from accidental inoculation, exposure to contaminated aerosols, and other severe injuries.



- Never dispose of Needles, syringes, scalpels and other biohazardous sharp objects directly into regular trash containers.
- Needles SHOULD NOT be bent, sheared, recapped or removed from the syringe after use. This increases potential exposure to aerosols and other physical hazards.
- Needles, syringes, scalpels and other biohazardous sharp objects are classified as regulated waste regardless of their use. Place them in labeled red biohazardous sharps containers. Once the containers are ¾ full, securely close the opening and place it in your biohazardous waste container and contact Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) for disposal.
- Uncontaminated broken glassware, as well as uncontaminated glass and plastic pipettes, should be
 placed in labeled "Glass Only" trash boxes after use. Once the containers are full, securely cap them
 and dispose of them in regular trash. Avoid using plastic sharps disposal containers for noncontaminated materials.



To dispose of sharps containers and related materials, please submit an online pickup request using the EH&S Chemical/Bio Waste Pickup Request form available at: https://csn.campusoptics.com/hw/chemical-bio-waste-pick-up-request-form. Please contact EH&S at 702-651-7445 or ehs@csn.edu if you have any questions.

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