



Procedure to Dispose of Drake Biologically Contaminated Waste

Drake University generates waste that is biologically contaminated with human fluids (blood, vomit, etc) but that is in small quantities and is fully contained in absorbent materials. This waste is generated throughout campus and specifically in the following area: Public Safety, Athletics, Student Residences, Facilities/Housekeeping, Biology and Pharmacy. This waste is not in quantities or of the threat level that it meets the criteria to be managed as Biohazardous waste. To assure that all Drake staff, faculty and students are protected from potential infection by these materials, however, they will be collected and managed as Biologically Contaminated Waste. This includes management of items including, but not limited to: gauze, cotton balls, Band-Aids, gloves/PPE, towels/rags used as absorbent media and pharmacological test strips. To properly manage this material:

1. Identify waste chemicals for disposal. This includes such items as gauze, cotton balls, Band-Aids, gloves/PPE, towels/rags used as absorbent media and pharmacological test strips. This does NOT include “dripping” blood products, vials/tubes of blood, pathogenic tissue samples or other infectious lab media that poses an imminent threat to Drake or the surrounding community. For information on ineligible waste management, contact Becky Andersen, Director EHS (515-271-3804).
2. Collect waste in the EHS provided sturdy cardboard boxes with plastic liners. Do not over-fill container.
3. Complete the Qualtrics form documenting quantity, type of waste and where the waste is located.
4. Submit the form to EHS so that a pickup of the waste can be scheduled.
5. Request a new container so that EHS can bring a replacement at the time disposal occurs.
6. Ask for guidance from EHS if you have any questions or concerns. For emergent situations where large quantities of biohazardous materials are present, contact Public Safety immediately for assistance at 515-271-2222.

Procedure Information

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