



Carnegie Mellon University

Environmental Health & Safety

FIRE | LAB | WORK

Biological Waste Quick Guide

Collection of Biological Waste- Solid

All solid biological material must be collected in a bio-waste box supplied by CMU Environmental Health and Safety (EHS). Waste boxes must be:

- Double bagged, knotted at the top, weigh under 45 pounds, and be free of liquids
- Not bulging or leaking
- Sealed by tape on top and bottom seams
- Labeled with the name of the generator/principal investigator, a phone number, and lab room number
- Boxes that do not follow the guidelines will not be picked up, and generators will be asked to re-box the waste

Sealed on all seams with packing tape



Collection of Biological Waste- Liquid

Liquids cannot be placed in solid waste bio-waste boxes. Liquid bio-waste should be either:

- Autoclaved
- Disinfected
- Submitted online through the hazardous waste program

Sharps Containers

Sharps containers do not need to be placed inside of boxed waste to be collected. Sharps containers must be closed permanently by snapping the inserts into place and then taping them shut so that no material falls out.

Removal of Biological Waste

In accordance with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, biological waste must be disposed in accordance with CMU's biological waste program. To submit an online request, please visit the CMU EHS Biological Safety website. Please note that requests submitted after 5 PM the day prior to collection will not be picked up that week.

Questions?

Email safety@andrew.cmu.edu