

# 12 MONTHS OF RESEARCH SAFETY FEBRUARY 2024

# **BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT**

#### **Quick Reminders:**

- 1. ORANGE biohazardous waste bags are ILLEGAL in California. Using them can lead to regulatory fines.
- 2. RED biohazardous waste bags MUST be Dual-Tested (ASTM D1709 and ASTM D1922) to be compliant.
- 3. Refer to the <u>UCR Laboratory Waste Disposal Requirements</u> for further information on disposing different types of laboratory wastes like pharmaceutical, liquid, sharps, and biohazardous medical waste.
- 4. Biohazardous waste best practices to ensure compliance:
  - a. Double bag your waste and tie it off to prevent leakage or expulsion of contents.
  - b. Label the outer bag with PI name, building, and room # prior to using it.

## **What is Considered Biohazardous Waste?**

Biohazardous waste includes materials with recombinant or synthetic nucleic acids, or any known or suspected *infectious agent* present in biological materials, fluids or media, carcasses, and blood or blood products. Culture dishes, plates, and flasks, plants or animals with recombinant/synthetic DNA, soil, and other materials that come into contact with these items including sharps, are also considered biohazardous waste.



## **Compliant Benchtop Biohazardous Waste Bins**







#### To meet Compliance:

- Benchtop biohazardous waste bins must be rigid, leakresistant containers made of nonporous materials with a tight-fitting lid.
- Biohazard stickers (can be provided by EH&S) on all four sides and lid so as to be visible from any direction.
- Must be lined with biohazardous waste bags meeting ASTM D1709 and ASTM D1922 standards (dualtested)

### **CONTACTUS**

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Questions?



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## Non-Compliant Tabletop Biohazardous Waste Bins



Common Non-Compliant Tabletop Bins:

- Swing lids do not meet compliance for biohazardous waste (not tight-fitting and potentially aerosol generating)
- Biohazardous waste bag stands do not provide for a rigid container
- · Cardboard is porous and not leak-resistant

Questions?

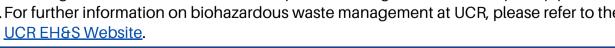
ALL of these examples are NOT compliant with the **California Medical Waste Management Act.** 

## **Biohazardous or Chemical Waste?**

To ensure compliance and proper waste management, laboratory waste should be segregated and disposed according to guidelines outlined in the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management training on UC Learning Center.

#### **Helpful Reminders:**

- 1. For mixed waste such as chemical and biological, waste should be treated as chemical waste based on hierarchy of waste segregation and management principles (radiological > chemical > biological).
- 2. Refer to the Hazardous Waste Determination Guidance if unsure how to categorize your waste.
  - a. For example, Ethidium Bromide gels and Phenol Chloroform extracts are Chemical waste, not Biohazardous waste, and should be disposed of as chemical waste using WASTe.
- 3. New rectangular biohazardous waste bins (pictured on right), same waste pickup process. a. For further information on biohazardous waste management at UCR, please refer to the





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