

Queen's University Environmental Health & Safety

Date Issued:
January 2008

Page No.:
1

Document No.:
SOP-Safety-12

**Date Issued:
January 2008**

Page N31Tm0 1

Queen's University Environmental Health & Safety

Date Issued:
January 2008

Page No.:
5

Document No.:
SOP-Safety-12



Date Issued: January 2008	Page No.: 6	Document No.: SOP-Safety-12
Revision: 2.0	Subject: Sharps Disposal	

When disposing of chemically contaminated sharps, chemical incompatibility needs to be considered. It may be necessary to segregate chemically contaminated sharps in different sharps containers based on compatibility. Full sharps containers must be disposed of as chemical waste in accordance with SOP-Chem-01 (Hazardous Waste Disposal).

Broken mercury thermometers should not be placed in a sharps container. After the sharp edges are taped over, it may be placed in a plastic bag to prevent the mercury from being released and disposed of by contacting the Department of Environmental Health and Safety.



Date Issued: January 2008	Page No.: 7	Document No.: SOP-Safety-12
Revision: 2.0	Subject: Sharps Disposal	

- Biohazardous, radioactive and hazardous chemical: Decontaminate the biohazardous agent, if it is safe to do so, and manage as a radioactive sharp.

5.6. Waste Glassware

Waste glassware is any broken item that could puncture regular trash bags and potentially cause injuries to someone handling the trash bag. Waste Laboratory glassware also includes intact glassware that has the potential break during waste handling activities. Waste laboratory glassware included, but is not limited to:

- Broken glass
- Bottles
- Flasks
- Pasteur pipettes
- Glass slides and cover slips
- Glass vials

If waste glassware is contaminated by a biohazard, radioactive and/or chemical, refer to the appropriate subsection under Section 5.0 for the appropriate disposal procedures.

Waste laboratory glassware that cannot be recycled and is free from biohazardous, radioactive and chemical contamination must be disposed as per the Physical Plant Services Lab Glass Disposal SOP (SOP #3.21), by placing the waste glass into round, white plastic, 10 gal. containers with no lids. These containers should be clearly labeled with a green sign indicating Lab Glass Disposal. For information on acquiring containers and labeling, contact Physical Plant Services.

Custodial Staff from Physical Plant Services will empty these containers as per the Lab Glass Disposal SOP (SOP #3.21).

Oversized waste laboratory glabe recycled and is



Date Issued: January 2008	Page No.: 8	Document No.: SOP-Safety-12
Revision: 2.0	Subject: Sharps Disposal	

box that is sized to fit the pipette. The requirements for securing and labeling the box are the same as those listed above.

Oversized waste laboratory glassware and long pasteur pipettes will not be collected if they are not packaged as described above.

6. Auditing

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety reserves the right to randomly select departments for inspection to verify compliance with this procedure.

Revision History

February 2007 Initial Release
January 2008 Revision 2.0 (addition of Appendix A)