



DISPOSAL OF BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

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| Responsibility: | <i>Coordinating Superintendent, Business Services & Treasurer of the Board</i> |
| Legal References: | <i>Guideline C-4: The Management of Biomedical Waste in Ontario Ontario Occupational Health and Safety Act and Regulations for Industrial Establishments</i> |
| Related References: | <i>Administrative Procedure 4156 - Disposal of Sharp Items and Needles</i> |
| Effective Date: | <i>November 2018</i> |
| Revisions: | <i>May 2022</i> |
| Reviewed: | |

1. Preamble

Proper disposal of biohazardous waste will reduce the risk of infection, injury or exposure to biohazardous materials.

2. Definition

Biohazardous waste is contaminated and potentially infectious and requires proper disposal from the school sites.

The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) defines biohazardous waste as it is currently generated/used at WRDSB schools and worksites as the following:

- animal anatomical waste;
- human and animal cultures or specimens (excluding urine and feces);
- body fluids visibly contaminated with blood; and
- broken glass which has come into contact with blood or bodily fluid.

3. Procedure

3.1 Removal of Biohazardous Materials

When addressing biohazardous waste, the size and/or location of the contaminant are integral considerations in the removal process.

Biohazardous waste and/or other materials that result from incidents at Board facilities, including, but not limited to, possible break-ins, injuries and/or unexpected found needles, syringes or other sharp objects on property, are to be handled in consultation with School Administration, Area Facility Managers, and/or police services and are outside of the scope of this procedure.

3.1.1 Animal anatomical (carcasses and tissues)

- Collect all preserved animal anatomical parts in leak-proof containers, label with a "Waste for Disposal" or "Hazardous Waste" label or tag.

- Collect all unpreserved animal anatomical parts in multiple leak-proof bags and the teacher places them directly into the dumpster.

3.1.2 **Liquids (cultures or specimens)**

Cleanse all liquid biohazardous materials (such as bacterial cultures in liquid media, body fluids of animals experimentally infected with pathogens, etc.) with an appropriate WRDSB approved chemical disinfectant for the sufficient contact time. After decontamination, liquids may be disposed of by pouring them down the drain to the sanitary sewer.

3.1.3 **Disposable Solid Items (non-sharps, and not animal carcasses or tissues)**

Collect all non-sharp disposable items (such as gloves, plastic-ware, wipes, etc.) contaminated with biohazardous materials in leak-proof bags for disposal in general waste.

3.1.4 **Non-disposable or Reusable Items**

Decontaminate non-disposable or reusable items (such as equipment, glassware, bench tops, etc.) contaminated with biohazardous materials by using a WRDSB approved chemical disinfectant. Choose a chemical disinfectant appropriate for the specific biohazardous material being used and allow for sufficient contact time.

3.2 **Sharps**

Refer to Administrative Procedure 4156 - Disposal of Sharp Items and Needles.