

RED BAG PROTOCOL: Red bags (even if unused) may never be disposed of in the municipal waste stream. All red bags must be transported from the facility by licensed contractors for disposal via incineration at a permitted regulated medical waste disposal facility. The collection, transportation, and disposal of red bag waste are coordinated through VCU Customer Services (828-9444).

Red bag disposal is governed by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

<http://www.deq.state.va.us/waste/wastereg120.html>

STAGING AREAS:

1. Sanger Hall. Properly packaged and labeled regulated medical waste may be staged at the following locations:

B2-DAR	B1-017	2-019	3-011	4-015
5-019	6-023	7-019	8-019	9-021
10-001	11-019	12-021		

2. Trani Life Science Building. Properly packaged and labeled regulated medical waste may be staged in Room 323.

3. Lyons/Wood Buildings. Properly packaged and labeled regulated medical waste may be staged at the first floor staging room.

4. For all other buildings, call Customer Service to schedule a pick up.

Regulations promulgated by VDEQ, OSHA, and NIH mandate that generators of regulated medical (infectious) waste be responsible for proper handling, packaging, labeling, and storage of all regulated medical waste materials. The majority of the regulated medical waste generated within university laboratories is transported off-site for incineration at a permitted regulated waste disposal facility. Details of the university requirements for the management, staging, packaging, and labeling of regulated medical waste materials are listed below:

A. All bags used for disposal of regulated medical waste materials (as defined in section 6 of this document) must meet the following standards:

1. All bags shall be red in color.
2. All bags shall be highly leak and tear resistant.
3. All bags shall bear the label: "Regulated Medical Waste" in large print.
4. All bags must bear universal biohazard symbol of at least 2" in relief.

B. All waste-filled red bags should be placed within a rigid outer container prior to transport off site.

1. University laboratories package all regulated medical waste within cardboard incineration boxes to meet outer container requirements.

2. MCVH facilities utilized closable rubberized roll-off dumpsters to meet outer container requirements.

C. Outer containers used for transporting of infectious waste materials must bear the following information and labeling:

1. The name, address, and telephone number of the generator and the date of generation (date which inner bags and box were sealed and prepared for transportation).

2. "Regulated Medical Waste" in large print.

3. The universal biohazard symbol.

D. Red bags should never be overfilled. Prior to placing in box, seal red bag by gathering ends and wrapping tightly with several loops of heavy tape. The resulting seal must be leak proof. Red bags bearing visible damage and/or evidence of leakage must be over packed within an intact red bag.

E. Free liquids must be placed in sturdy leak proof containers which are highly resistant to breakage prior to being placed within red bags.

F. Sharps material should never be placed directly into red bags: all sharps materials shall be packaged within securely closable, leak-proof, puncture-resistant containers prior to placing in red bag/incineration box for disposal.

G. The total weight of individual incineration box may not exceed 40 lbs.

H. Spill response kits must be maintained in all areas where infectious waste is managed (refer to section V for recommended supplies and clean-up procedures).

I. All areas utilized for the staging or storage of red bags must have impervious surfaces which can be readily sanitized. Regulated medical waste materials should never be staged on carpeted or wood floor surfaces.

J. Stage and store regulated medical waste in areas which are not readily accessible to the general public - limit access to collection and storage areas to specifically designated personnel.

K. Discarded infectious waste may be stored at room temperature for no more than 7 days past generation date. Regulated medical waste may be stored for up to 14 days when refrigerated at 2-7° C (35-45° F).

L. Infectious waste should never be stored on site for more than 14 days past generation date.

M. Reusable containers must be thoroughly disinfected (in accordance with manufacturer's directions) after each use.

N. Personnel handling red bags should wear leak-resistant gloves at all times. Hands should be thoroughly scrubbed with soap and water following glove removal.

O. Red Bags should not be utilized for containing any materials other than regulated medical waste.