

## Preparing Sharps Low-Level Radioactive Waste for Collection

### Standard Operating Procedure

Revision Date: 06/19/18

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Sharps are those objects which represent a puncture or laceration hazard.

#### *Examples of this Waste Stream*




- Needles
- Scalpels
- Intravenous tubing with needle attached
- Razor blades
- Capillary tubes and pipettes
- Xacto knife blades
- Sharp metal objects
- Broken glass objects

#### Supplies Available through Hazardous Materials Management

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Hazardous Materials Management (HMM) provides sharps containers. To order sharps containers, call (734) 763-4568 or complete the online [Waste and Supply Request](#) form.

| SUPPLY  | DESCRIPTION   |
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| <br><i>1 Gallon and 5 Gallon Sharps Containers</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1 gallon sharps pail</li><li>• 5 gallon sharps pail</li></ul> |

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## Denying Waste Collection

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Sharps are **not** to be placed into the EHS yellow LLRW fiber drums for disposal. Sharp objects discovered in the yellow fiber drums will result in the fiber drum being returned to laboratory of origin for proper segregation and repackaging.

## Using the Waste Container

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1. Segregate sharps LLRW by isotope(s).
2. Securely close (i.e. snapped in place) the container to prevent radioactive material from leaking from conditions normally incident to transportation.

## Procedure: Preparing Sharps LLRW for Collection

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1. Assign a number to each pail or box. Use 1-8 as preprinted on each manifest.
2. On the manifest, complete **Sec D** and the authorized user and location information.
3. Conduct a radioactive contamination survey for the following places on the sharps pails or commercially-available approved containers:
  - Pail: Lid, handle, sides, and bottom
  - Commercially-available approved containers: All four sides, top, and bottom
4. Is there evidence of contamination?
  - If YES, decontaminate (clean) the outside of the pail or commercially-available approved container and return to step 5.
  - If NO, go to the next step.
5. Make a copy of the manifest and radioactive contamination survey results for your records.
6. Staple a copy of the radioactive contamination survey results to the manifest.
7. Place container label around handle of pail and affix the two adhesive ends together or on top of the commercially-available approved container.
8. Place the manifest in a location where it is visible for collection and where it will **not** become contaminated.
9. Request a waste collection from HMM using one of the following methods:
  - Call HMM at (734) 763-4568
  - Complete the online [Waste and Supply Request](#) form