

Biohazardous Waste Disposal Standard Operating Procedure

1. Waste collected in laboratories must be held in EH&S approved clear autoclave bags (available from stores) within clearly labeled “Biohazardous Waste” bins. **Autoclave bags labeled with the biohazard symbol are NOT permitted for use.**
2. Autoclave use will be reserved every Monday and Tuesday for bio-waste processing only.
3. First bio-waste run each week will require the user to include a Biological Indicator test (see B.I. procedures).
4. **Cycle 2 (60-121-15)** is to be used for bio-waste autoclaving.
5. Autoclave bags must NOT be filled more than half full
6. Bags must be tied closed with EH&S approved biohazardous waste tags.
7. Immediately before autoclaving biohazard bags;
 - i. remove and keep the biohazard waste tag
 - ii. loosely open the bag and place it in an autoclave pan (secondary containment vessel)
 - iii. place a piece of autoclave tape on the bag
8. After autoclaving place the bio-waste in one of the Biohazardous Waste bins in SN1109 along with the biohazardous waste tag. **Put an unmarked black garbage bag (user supplied – available form stores) in the bio-waste bin before placing your waste in the bin.**
9.
 - a. **IF the B.I. test is OK** (see B.I. procedures)
 - i. remove the waste and the tag from the biohazardous waste bin in the unmarked black garbage bag
 - ii. place the tag in the Tag Disposal Box in SN1109
 - iii. tie closed the unmarked black garbage bag and place it in a regular garbage bin
 - b. **IF the B.I. test fails** then the bio-waste has to be autoclaved again with a new B.I. test ran.
10. The user who initiates the B.I. test is tasked with following up the B.I. test and recording the results in the B.I. Log Book.
11. Other users need to refer to the B.I. log book to determine if a B.I. test has been run for that week and the status/result of the B.I. test.
12. An estimate of the biohazardous waste mass (kg) must be recorded in the Autoclave Logbook.

The most current version of this document is available from the safety section on the Department of Biochemistry Website.

Autoclave Safe Use Standard Operating Procedure

1. All autoclave users must be registered with the Department of Biochemistry (see Heather Fifield (SN4014), hifield@mun.ca or call ext. 8551).
2. All autoclave use is to be booked using the departmental online equipment booking system (<http://bioc-schedule.bioc.mun.ca>). Upon registration with the department you will be given online access to book the autoclave.
3. Book 90 minutes for a standard Liquid or Gravity cycle (cycles 1 & 4) and 120 minutes for a Biohazardous Waste Cycle (Cycle 2).
4. Notify Heather Fifield of any malfunctions or other problems.
5. Follow proper autoclave operating procedures as per Appendix B of the universities Autoclave Safe Use Standard Operating Procedure (given to you during autoclave user training or available online at http://www.mun.ca/health_safety/biosafety/Biosafetyoperatingprocedures.php).
6. Complete the Autoclave Logbook for your run. Note: Mass (kg) is only required for bio-waste runs.

Biological Indicator (B.I.) Standard Operating Procedure

1. A box of B.I.'s will be made available in SN1109 for user B.I. testing.
2. Attach a string (provided in SN1109) to the B.I. ampule and place it in the center of the representative load within the autoclave.
3. Following the autoclave cycle completion wait 10 minutes for the B.I. to cool then crush the interior glass ampule of both the test B.I. and a non-autoclaved control ampule.
4. Incubate both ampules at 55-60 °C in the incubator in SN1109 for 48 hours recording the test results in the B.I. Log.
5. A colour change in the test B.I., representing bacterial growth, indicates ineffective sterilization of the load. No color change indicates successful sterilization.
6. A colour change is expected in the non-autoclaved control. No colour change in the non-autoclaved control indicates a possible fault with the indicators and the bio-waste must be autoclaved again and a fresh B.I. test ran.
7. All B.I. test results are to be recorded in the B.I. Test Logbook.
8. Used BI's are to be brought back to your lab and processed with your next bio-waste run.

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