

07-030/50 Handling of Bio-hazardous and Bio-solid Waste Material

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Unit Order: #07-030/50	
CUSTODY SERVICES DIVISION	
GENERAL POPULATION	Effective Date: 01-01-1998
NORTH COUNTY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY	Revision Date: 05-23-2013
Review Date:	
Subject: Handling of Bio-hazardous and Bio-solid Waste Material	
Reference: MPP 5-06/090.00 & 090.05; Medical Waste Management Act, Section 118280, Title 8, California Code of Regulations, Section 5193	
Unit Commander Signature:	Date:

PURPOSE OF ORDER: The purpose of this unit order is to establish procedures for the proper handling, clean-up and disposal of solid waste and bio-hazardous materials encountered at NCCF.

SCOPE OF ORDER: This order applies to all personnel assigned to and/or working at the North County Correctional Facility (NCCF).

ORDER: The following procedures **shall be** strictly adhered to at all times for incidents that occur at NCCF.

For purposes of this directive, the following definitions apply:

Bio-hazardous material: Hazardous biological material that present a risk or potential risk to the health of humans, animals, or the environment. The risk can be direct through infection or indirect through damage to the environment. Bio-hazardous materials include certain types of organisms and viruses infectious to humans, animals, or plants (parasites, viruses, bacteria). They also include biologically active agents (toxins and venoms) that may cause disease in other living organisms or significantly impact the environment. The most common bio-hazardous material that you will find in a custodial environment is infectious blood.

Bio-solid waste material: Any solid, semisolid, or liquid waste produced by the body that could be infectious and result in the spread of disease. Bio-solid waste materials include vomit and fecal matter.

BIO-HAZARDOUS CLEAN-UP PROCEDURES:

In the event of a bio-hazardous material spill, however small, the spill shall be cleaned up by a trained person. This trained person may be an Inmate Worker, Staff Member, or any authorized clean-up company representative. Inmate Workers and Department members can be trained by the Unit Safety Officer or designee who has been properly trained by the Department.

For a minor spill, the area should be cleared of any personnel not involved in the clean-up or supervision of the incident. The handling person shall don appropriate personal protective equipment deemed necessary by the on-scene supervisor **prior to** the cleaning process. If there is debris of any kind (paper towels, rags, clothing, sheets, etc.), these items shall be picked up with a gloved hand using a clean towel as a barrier. The items shall then be placed inside a bio-hazardous bag. Any area surrounding the bio-hazardous material shall be cleaned with a liberal mixture of "Turbo-Kill" and hot water. Thoroughly clean the affected area with a mop using a moderate amount of pressure. Once the spill is clean, use a clean bucket of the Turbo-Kill mixture and re-mop the affected area. Thoroughly clean the mop and bucket after dumping the water. The affected mop head and any debris shall be placed inside the bio-hazardous bag.

The bio-hazardous bag shall then be delivered safely to the Bio-Hazardous Collection Container located in the NCCF Infirmary.

FACILITY PACKAGING: (Medical Service Personnel)

All bio-hazardous waste, collected from bio-hazardous waste receptacles shall be tightly sealed in a leak-proof bio-hazardous plastic bag (red in color) and discarded in the bio-hazardous waste collection container. Any plastic waste bag found to be damaged or leaking, upon removal from the waste receptacle, shall be tightly sealed by the Medical Staff. The damaged bag shall then be placed into another leak proof bio-hazardous waste bag prior to placing it into the facility's bio-hazardous waste collection container.

"Eva-Safe" needle containers **shall not** be placed in the same bio-hazardous plastic bag used for other bio-hazardous waste. However, the "Eva-Safe" containers shall be placed in the bio-hazardous waste collection container for transportation to the disposal site. "Eva-Safe" containers must be a rigid, puncture-resistant container that, when sealed, is leak resistant and cannot be reopened without great difficulty per California Health and Safety Code section 117747.

FACILITY PICK UP:

The bio-hazardous waste collection container will be transported to the Pitchess Detention Center Bio-hazardous Waste Accumulation Site on Tuesday of each week, between 0900 hours and 1400 hours.

TRANSPORTING:

Medical Services Bio-hazardous Waste Collection Container(s) will be transported to the Waste Accumulation Site in a Sheriff's Black and White pick-up truck. The bed of this vehicle shall be suitably equipped to secure the Bio-hazardous Waste Collection Container(s) placed within it. Only those County vehicles appropriately-equipped shall be used for transportation.

The specified vehicle used **shall** carry these containers "undeformed and secured in an upright position". Any containers that cannot be loaded safely shall be transported in a separate run.

The bio-hazardous waste collection containers **shall be** immediately taken to the Pitchess Detention Center Bio-hazardous Waste Accumulation Site after they have been loaded from the various staging areas.

The driver will drive directly to the PDC Main Gate, obtain the key for the Waste Accumulation Site lock and dump each of the bio-hazardous Waste Collection Containers into the accumulation receptacle. **It is unnecessary to touch or lift out the individual red bags to remove them from each collection container.** The empty bio-hazardous waste container(s) will then be returned to NCCF.

BIO-SOLID CLEAN-UP PROCEDURES:

Any clothing item, linen, or bedding material that is possibly contaminated with a bio-solid material shall be treated as such by inmate workers and staff. When staff or inmate workers are handling these materials, they shall wear gloves and wash their hands after completing the task. All contaminated items shall be placed in the designated red, water-soluble bags prior to being sent to the laundry. The bags will be clearly marked, identifying the suspected bio-solid material. Those bags will be separated from the general laundry items and the disposition of the items will be determined by laundry staff (i.e. sanitize or destroy).

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT:

Disposable gloves - Disposable medical gloves will be provided and utilized by all employees when handling bio-hazardous waste. The gloves provide protection against direct skin contact with the bio-hazardous materials. The gloves may be discarded as normal refuse unless soiled by bio-hazardous waste material. The gloves **shall not** be washed and reused.

Disposable aprons - Disposable aprons are intended to keep outer garments from contamination, Since the exterior surface of the bio-hazardous Waste Collection Containers are not contaminated with bio-hazardous waste materials, it is unlikely that an employee handling them would have his or her outer garments contaminated with bio-hazardous materials. The aprons will be made available to those who desire to utilize them. The aprons **shall be** discarded as normal refuse after use, unless it has come into direct contact with bio-hazardous waste materials.

If the personal protective equipment (gloves/aprons) should come in contact with bio-hazardous waste materials and become contaminated, these items shall be handled in accordance with the packaging guidelines as set forth in the previous paragraph(s).

Should any of the handling and/or transporting equipment become contaminated, cleaning **shall be** accomplished in accordance with the cleaning section of this policy and procedure.

WASTE HANDLING EQUIPMENT:

Medical Services Bio-hazardous Waste Collection Container - An industrial strength container constructed of a hard thermoplastic (polyethylene or equivalent material). The container will be red in color, durable, dent resistant, equipped with reinforced grip handles, a tight seal lid, and seamless in design. The container and lid must be suitably marked with the words "**BIOHAZARD**" the international biohazard symbol **shall be** affixed and visible from any lateral direction. Additionally, the container and lid must be able to withstand steam cleaning and other sanitizing procedures. The size of this container **shall be** limited to a maximum size of 35 gallons.

Pitchess Detention Center Bio-hazardous Waste Accumulation Site - The Waste Accumulation Site is secured and delineated area, located west of the Main Entrance gate, on the south side of the road. At the site is the receptacle for collecting the contents of the bio-hazardous Waste Collection Container. The Main Gate Deputy controls the access to the enclosure.

Bio-hazardous Plastic Waste Bags - The plastic bags (or liners) shall be appropriate size and shape for use in the designated containers. The bag will be red in color, labeled with the international 'BIOHAZARD' symbol and have warnings in English and Spanish. The bags will meet the American Society for Testing & Materials (ASTM) 165-gram dart test and Elmedorf tear test.

Medical Clinic Bio-Hazardous Receptacles - Rigid containers with tight fitting lids are lined with a plastic bio-hazardous waste bag. The receptacle is to be clearly marked with the international "BIOHAZARDOUS" waste symbol so as to be visible from any lateral direction.

Transportation Vehicle - A County vehicle used to transport bio-hazardous waste containers shall be a Sheriff's black and white pick-up truck that is equipped to safely secure the bio-hazardous waste collection containers upright within its cargo area.

PERSONNEL TRAINING:

Employees performing this procedure will be provided training. The training will include:

1. Overview of the program and work practice controls
2. Use of personal protection equipment and limitations
3. Exposure control procedure to minimize expose
4. Concept of Universal Precaution
5. Hands-on training for use of equipment

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