

RADIOACTIVE BIOLOGICAL WASTE



Read below for information about safe packaging, labeling and disposing of radioactive biological waste.

DESCRIPTION

Biological waste consists of radioactive material mixed with biological components including animals, animal parts, excrement, bedding, and/or biological cultures that may putrefy.

STORE

Biological waste needs to be **sealed in two layers** of plastic bags and kept **frozen** until final disposal or retrieval from Radiation Safety.

All biological waste should be transferred to Radiation Safety for decay-in-storage and disposal.

Before creating long lived biological waste, make arrangements with Radiation Safety to ensure proper packaging, storage and a timely pick-up of biological waste.

PACKAGE & LABEL

Biological waste should be **sealed** in an opaque plastic bag and **double-bagged** or stored in another container. Use a **zip tie or strong tape** to seal the plastic bags and/or containers.

Containers or bags need to be **labelled with a RAM material tag**. The tag should be completely filled out with the nuclide, activity and date. Contact Radiation Safety to request tags or stickers.

DISPOSE

Animals containing less than .05 μ Ci/gram of H-3 or C-14 can be disposed of as non-radioactive waste. Contact Radiation Safety for more information.

Radiation Safety must be contacted for long lived nuclides above exempt limits.

To arrange disposal of radioactive biological waste, complete a [Radioactive Waste Collection Request](#).

Please contact EH&S Radiation Safety at 206.543.0463 or radsaf@uw.edu for more information.