

# Radioactive Biological Waste

## PACKAGING, LABELLING AND DISPOSAL 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.

### HOW TO...

#### Store in lab

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 waste 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 (RS can provide tags or stickers to labs). The tag should be completely filled out with the nuclide, activity, and date.

### DISPOSAL

Animals containing less than .05 $\mu$ 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 a waste pick-up for biological waste complete the online [Waste Collection Form](#).

**For questions about biological radioactive waste, contact EH&S at 206.543.0463.**