



SP 130: Hazardous Waste & Biohazardous Medical Waste Management

UPDATED: 12/21/2023

PURPOSE: This procedure establishes requirements for the management of hazardous waste. Contact Safety Department for procedures covering other types of hazardous waste.

Introduction

As a starting point, our Javits Center building rules, which event producers are contractually bound by specifically provides that “Flammable or combustible mixtures, waste, liquids and other hazardous materials are not permitted without approval of Javits Center management.” So at least per building rules, the Javits Center must approve ahead of time any hazardous materials being brought on premises, and therefore should be aware of their presence. Notwithstanding that fact, the Javits Center does not simply rely on compliance with the building rules as the sole basis for tracking hazardous materials. In addition, there is an in-house safety team at the Javits Center which patrols the show floor as well as the loading dock areas, during the move in, move out and open days of events. Their role is to ensure all safety guidelines are being complied, including the safe disposal of any waste generated during an event. This serves as a check on those exhibitors or producers who fail to notify the Javits Center of the existence of hazardous materials prior to the event.

In those rare instances where hazardous waste is reported or identified, the Javits Center staff arranges for the delivery of an approved receptacle to the waste generator. Once the generator deposits the waste in the receptacle, the Javits Center arranges for an approved hauler for hazardous waste to remove the waste from the premises and dispose of it in accordance with the law. NYCCOC then invoices the generator of the waste for the removal and disposal cost. The Javits Center utilizes only approved vendors to remove the waste. Manifests for the removal of the waste are maintained by Javits Center’s Health & Safety Solutions department.

Hazardous Waste Generated by an Event

In certain conditions, exhibitors or event producers may generate their own hazardous waste during an event at the Javits Center. In such cases, exhibitors have the option to remove their own hazardous waste if the following conditions are satisfied by the Javits Center Safety Department and in accordance with the rules promulgated by the Department of Environmental Conservation.

- Characteristic and listed hazard waste is less than 220 pounds (Trade Secret consideration).
- Acute hazardous waste (P-listed) is less than 2.2 pounds.
- Hazardous waste is self-transported by show/event personnel.

- Hazardous waste is either transported to another facility owned and operated by the show/event OR to permitted hazardous waste treatment storage, or disposal Facility.

Hazardous Waste Collection Program

In the rare event, the Javits Center generates hazardous waste, you must utilize the Hazardous Waste Collection Program to dispose of all hazardous waste generated by your department. Hazardous wastes must NOT be transported within the Javits Center without permission and direction from the Safety Department.

Disposal of Wastes

- Departments must obtain approval from Safety Department prior to disposing of chemicals in sink/sewer drains.
- All hazardous wastes must be disposed of through the Javits Center Hazardous Waste Collection Program.
- Hazardous wastes must NOT be disposed of by evaporation - this includes evaporation in fume hoods or biosafety cabinets. Remember, hazardous waste containers must be kept closed at all times except to add or remove waste.

Waste Storage

The storage of hazardous waste is only permitted with explicit instructions and guidance from the Safety Department. Your department will receive storage instructions and location based upon the size, nature and quantity of waste. Before any waste can be stored, at any location within the Javits Center, advance approval is required by the Safety Department.

Waste Collection

You must submit a request to the Safety Department to have your hazardous waste collected by the Javits Center. Your request must include a summary of the type and volume of waste your department is requesting to be collected so that the proper collection equipment and/or vendor can be utilized.

- Hazardous waste containers should be dated when they are filled. This is accomplished by filling in the date on the hazardous chemical waste tag that should be attached to the container).
- You must have your hazardous waste collected at such a frequency, and at the direction of the Safety Department, to remain in compliance with guidelines.

Hazardous Waste Containers

1. *Acute Hazardous Waste Containers*

An empty container that has held an acute hazardous waste must be triple rinsed using a solvent (which might be water) capable of removing the acute hazardous waste prior to disposal of the container as regular trash. Each rinsing should be performed with an amount of solvent equal to approximately 5 percent of the volume of the container. The rinsate must be collected

and disposed of as hazardous waste. The containers should be defaced of any chemical or hazardous waste labels and the cap should be removed prior to disposal as regular trash.

2. *Other Hazardous Waste Containers*

A container that has held any hazardous waste, other than an acute hazardous waste, can be disposed of as regular trash once all the waste has been poured out. The waste should be emptied out leaving as little residue as possible. The containers should be defaced of any chemical or hazardous waste labels and the cap should be removed prior to disposal as regular trash.

Manifests and Approved Hauler

The removal of waste from the Javits Center is performed by an approved hauler and can only be coordinated by the Safety Department. All requests should be directed to the Safety Department for execution. All manifests, detailing the waste type, removal and quantity, are provided by the approved hauler and retained by the Safety Department for a period of five years.

Biohazardous Medical Waste

From time to time, small quantities of medical waste are generated through certain events such as the Greater New York Dental Meeting and American Psychiatric Association or through our first aid station. Our procedure requires all such waste, regardless of quantity, to be disposed of in accordance with all city, state and federal regulation.

Regulations are in place to help reduce the risk of injury and infection during handling, at the point of collection and transport for ultimate disposal. Several federal bodies have regulations concerning different aspects of biohazardous waste management, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Department of Transportation (DOT). From New York State, Department of Health, Department of Transportation and Public Employees Health and Safety department provide regulatory requirements.

Biohazardous waste includes, but is not limited to:

- **Red bag waste:** items saturated or visibly contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials: bandages, gauze, personal protective equipment such as gloves, gowns, goggles, plastic tubing
- **Sharps waste:** needles, scalpels, syringes, lancets and any other object which was exposed to potentially infectious material and is capable of puncturing human skin (e.g., broken glass)
- **Pathological (or anatomical) waste:** limbs, specimens, tissue samples (decanted of preservatives)
- **Trace chemotherapy wastes:** masks, gloves and gowns, empty vials, empty intravenous bags, tubing and bottles, which were used in the administration of chemotherapeutic drugs
- **Laboratory wastes:** cultures and stocks that contain human disease-causing agents

All biohazardous medical waste will be placed in red medical waste bags and contained within a plastic sealed container, also red in color with biohazard labeling. Examples of the red bag and container are listed below for reference.



The Javits Center tries to contain all biohazardous waste to the first aid office on level one. Medical waste bags and containers are located inside the first aid office. In certain instances, containment to the first aid office is not possible and the pre-staging of red medical waste bags and containers are required. Any medical waste generated outside the first aid office is to be properly bagged, sealed and transported to the first aid office for collection and disposal by an approved medical waste vendor. Only Javits Center medical providers or safety department team members are authorized to transport medical waste within the Center to the first aid office.

Stericycle is the current medical waste collection and disposal vendor. The safety department is responsible for coordinating the collection of all medical waste upon demand.