

All research wet labs in LSB will be provided with dishwashing and sterilization services. Labs should avoid sterilizing their own waste unless necessary. Labs are responsible for properly preparing waste according to [EH&S guidelines](#) for processing by LSB Lab Services staff.

Solid Biohazardous Waste

- Biohazard waste must be double bagged in autoclave safe bags (available from LSB stock room) and each bag should be independently, securely closed with either a twist tie or lab tape. Do not twist the bags or tie the bag itself into a knot. Bags should be loose enough for steam to penetrate and vent. The outer bag should be labeled with the lab name, room number, date filled, and initials/name of the person prepping the waste using a bold marker.
- Bags should be placed in autoclave safe bins such as [Option 1](#) or [Option 2](#) that have been labeled with the lab name/initials and room/floor number and then placed on the green, lab services racks found on the east end of the research floors. LSB Lab Services staff will return tubs to the location of the tub label. All tubs must be in reasonably good condition, free from large cracks, holes, and with solid handles. Any tub not meeting these standards will be left behind.
- Do not overfill biohazard bags (no more than 2/3 full), they should be able to reasonably fit in the autoclave safe tubs and have room to expand in the autoclave. This also helps prevent excessive pressure of contents that lead to punctures of the bag.
- Any bag found to contain sharps items (see next two categories) will be left behind until deficiencies corrected.

Biohazardous Lab Glass and Plastic (including serological pipets and pipet tips)

- If you have [biohazardous glass and plastic](#), such as Pasteur pipettes, pipet tips, etc., they should be collected in sturdy cardboard boxes lined with a biohazard bag. Please keep the weight of the boxes to a reasonable weight as staff will have to be lifting these boxes onto autoclave racks and into dumpsters. Once full, the boxes should have a biohazard sticker placed on them or labeled as biohazard in bold marker, sealed (just across the top and bottom major seams) with “Lab Glass” tape (available from stock room) and then labeled with the lab name, room number, date, and initials of whoever prepared the box for pickup using a bold marker. Place boxes on lab services racks on floor.
- Alternatively, biohazardous lab glass and plastic can also be collected in [pipet keepers](#) or [boxes](#). Once full, the boxes should have a biohazard sticker placed on them or labeled as biohazard in bold marker, sealed (just across the top and bottom major seams) with “Lab Glass” tape (available from stock room) and then labeled with the lab name, room number, date, and initials of whoever prepared the box for pickup using a bold marker. Place boxes one lab services rack.
- Non-biohazardous glass waste should be packaged according to EH&S guidelines and left near the Slim-Jim (tall) trash cans found at the end of benches for custodial services to take. Use the [Packaging Sharps and Lab Glass poster](#) for guidance. Any container found to not be in compliance will be left behind until deficiencies are corrected.
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Biohazardous Sharps Waste (see [EH&S sharps definition](#))

- Needles, syringes with attached needles, razor blades, scissors, scalpels, and like items should be disposed of by placing them in a red, hard sided sharps container. The container, once full (to built-in marker line, not lid), should have the lid securely closed, autoclave tape placed of the lid (do not block vent holes), labelled with the lab name, room number, date and initials of the person who prepared it. Place on lab services racks.
- Use the [Packaging Sharps and Lab Glass poster](#) for guidance. Any container found to not be complying will be left behind until deficiencies are corrected.

Fly waste

- Plastic fly vials should be treated the same as general biohazard waste. Volume limit is 2/3 capacity of the bag, or if the bag is large, a reasonable weight for lifting. Be sure to secure both bags independently and tight enough for flies to not escape. Please keep in mind the plastic vials/bottle soften and mold into a single, dense mass.
- Glass bottles will not be handled by LSB Lab Services.

Animal Waste

- LSB Lab Services will not be handling any animal waste. DCM will operate their own space within LSB.

Dishwashing

- LSB lab services staff will provide labware cleaning & sterilization services for LSB research labs. Items may be washed with items belonging to other labs/floors, so it is critical that all items going to lab services be labeled with the lab name or floor number (if your floor shares glassware). It is recommended that items be labelled with a paint pen or other permanent marker. Items that can't be identified to a particular owner will be collected and kept aside but staff will not actively search for owners. Please contact the lab services manager if you believe you have items missing.
- Dirty items should still be prepared by the labs themselves. Lab services staff will not do any pre-rinsing, scrubbing, or bleaching of glassware. Items must be fully drained of liquids inside them.
 - For example, Erlenmeyer flasks or glass test tubes that have had bacterial or yeast cultures, should be rinsed with a 10% bleach solution by lab members, allowed to sit for 15 minutes, then emptied, rinsed, and placed in a tub which is then placed on the lab services rack. Lab services will then send these through the dishwasher and sterilize (if desired)
 - Lids to bottles and tubes should not be left of the bottle or tube, but instead collected and placed in a plastic beaker or some other container. Empty media bottles with the tops cut off work well for this purpose.
 - Spatulas and stir bars should also be left in containers like that above and not left inside glassware.
 - Test tubes should be collected in a similar fashion if possible. Pulling test tubes out of racks takes a long time and break at a higher rate. If you want test tubes cleaned and sterilized, the tubes will be cleaned one day, sent back to the labs who will need to prepare the tubes for sterilization (cap, rack) and sent back to lab services for sterilization.
- All items sent to glassware must be in safe condition. Glassware that is broken or has a high chance of breaking will not be cleaned by staff and shouldn't be sent down in the first place. Containers that have had biohazardous materials in them should be bleached beforehand and rinsed well before being sent to glassware services.
- Reusable notes have been made that labs should use to distinguish if items in tubs should be washed and/or sterilized and also will be used to indicate if the task has been completed and there is a section for notes to be added. Vis-à-vis pens can be used on these signs and easily removed with 70% alcohol. All items sent to glassware are assumed to be autoclave and drying oven (50°C) safe. If a particular item should not be autoclaved or placed in a drying oven, please make sure it is labeled with a note as such.
- Items like stir bars, spatulas, etc., will be cleaned but not autoclaved unless there is a specific note asking for sterilization. If sterilization is requested, items will be placed into individual sterilization pouches. Please only sterilize items that require it.

NOTES

- A single pickup of labware & waste will happen weekdays (excluding holidays, campus shutdowns, or equipment failure) between 8am-9am, but items should be on the racks by 8am. Lab services desires to return items by 5pm the same day but it's possible items may not be returned until the next business day.
- Any questions, comments, concerns should be directed to the LSB Lab Services Manager.
- LSB Lab Services Contacts
 - Lab Services Manager: Aaron E. Hernandez, aaroneh@uw.edu, 206.543.7381
 - Lab Services Technician: Kayla Higgs, khiggs@uw.edu, 206.543.4829