

# NIH Laboratory Waste Disposal Matrix

| Laboratory (Dry) Waste<br>[✓ = Best Practice/Recommended Method]                                                                                                               | Acceptable Disposal Methods <sup>3</sup> |                |                                                              |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                | Chemical Waste                           | MPW            | Disposable Labware and Broken glassware (Solid waste/ Trash) | Recycle        |
| <b>PPE (Disposable Lab coats, gloves, booties, face mask, absorbent pads etc.)</b>                                                                                             |                                          |                |                                                              |                |
| Contaminated during Biomedical <sup>1</sup> procedures                                                                                                                         | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Contaminated during Chemical procedures                                                                                                                                        | ✓                                        | Not Authorized | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| General Use (uncontaminated)                                                                                                                                                   | ✓                                        | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| <b>Labware (Beakers, flasks, graduated cylinders, pipettes, test tubes, etc.)</b>                                                                                              |                                          |                |                                                              |                |
| Contaminated glassware - Biomedical Residue                                                                                                                                    | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Contaminated glassware - Chemical Residue                                                                                                                                      | ✓                                        | Not Authorized | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Decontaminated/Disinfected/Unused or Broken glassware <sup>2</sup>                                                                                                             | Acceptable                               | Acceptable     | ✓                                                            | Not Authorized |
| Contaminated plastic labware – Biomedical Residue                                                                                                                              | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Contaminated plastic labware – Chemical Residue                                                                                                                                | ✓                                        | Not Authorized | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Decontaminated empty reagent bottles (plastic or glass) (Autoclave or Bleach) <sup>2</sup>                                                                                     | Acceptable                               | Acceptable     | ✓                                                            | Not Authorized |
| Empty Reagent bottles                                                                                                                                                          | ✓                                        | Not Authorized | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Non-Hazardous plastic labware (including pipettes and pipette tips) <sup>2</sup>                                                                                               | ✓                                        | Acceptable     | Acceptable                                                   | Not Authorized |
| Decontaminated/Disinfected/Unused plastic ware                                                                                                                                 | Acceptable                               | Acceptable     | ✓                                                            | Not Authorized |
| Labware packaging                                                                                                                                                              | Not Authorized                           | Not Authorized | ✓                                                            | Not Authorized |
| Pipette Tip Racks                                                                                                                                                              | Not Authorized                           | Not Authorized | Not Authorized                                               | ✓              |
| <b>Pathological materials</b>                                                                                                                                                  |                                          |                |                                                              |                |
| Animal carcasses, anatomical waste, organs, tissues from humans or animals (no liquids)                                                                                        | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| <b>Sharps</b>                                                                                                                                                                  |                                          |                |                                                              |                |
| Sharp's container w/ scalpels, razor blades, Pasteur & micro-fine pipettes, all needles & syringes                                                                             | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| <b>Miscellaneous</b>                                                                                                                                                           |                                          |                |                                                              |                |
| Waste containing or contaminated with infectious or pathogenic agent(s)                                                                                                        | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Animal bedding contaminated with Cytotoxic or Cytostatic drugs which cannot be decontaminated through autoclave                                                                | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Animal bedding - Decontaminated                                                                                                                                                | Not Authorized                           | Acceptable     | ✓                                                            | Not Authorized |
| Animal transport boxes that contained infectious animals                                                                                                                       | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Materials contaminated with residual Cytotoxic or Cytostatic drug(s) (i.e., empty drug vials, patient care materials, towels, absorbent pads, catheters, IV Bags, <3% Liquids) | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |
| Biohazard Bags                                                                                                                                                                 | Not Authorized                           | ✓              | Not Authorized                                               | Not Authorized |

1 Biomedical– waste with the presence of pathogenic agents, human tissues, animal carcasses, tissues from biomedical research, and other discarded materials that are regulated as medical waste by the U.S. Department of Transportation, state or local laws.

2 Disposal through Solid waste requires material containment in the Disposable Labware & Broken Glass box (NSN-8115-01-154-2305)

3 Call the Division of Radiation Safety (DRS) for proper disposal of all dry radioactive materials/wastes from laboratories even if combined with another waste stream.