Medical School Biomedical Waste

Sharps (Syringes with or without needles, razor blades, scalpel blades)
- Needle box

Solid wastes that could puncture a bag (semi-sharps) (such as pipets, pipet tips and broken plastic items...)
- Red container
- Yale provided bag-box unit

Solid wastes that will not puncture a bag (such as gloves, labware)
- Red container
- Bags that can be pulled from outer container or Yale provided bag-box unit

Pathological Waste
- Objects that could puncture bag must be placed in bag-box unit

Blood and other liquid wastes (such as body fluids, liquid cultures, cell lines, tissue cultures, liquid waste from RDNA experiments)
- Bleach treat (add 10% by volume with 30 min contact time)

Definitions:
BL1 waste/BL2 (low risk) - is contaminated with Biosafety Level 1 biological material not known to cause diseases in healthy humans, animals or plants or with lower risk Biosafety Level 2 materials such as human and non-human primate blood, body fluids, cells, cell lines and tissue cultures.
BL2 waste (moderate risk) – is contaminated with higher risk Biosafety Level 2 materials such as BL2 human, animal, or plant pathogens, BL2 non-exempt recombinant DNA, biological toxins and BL2 agents requiring registration with the Connecticut State Department of Public Health.
BL3 waste – is contaminated with Biosafety Level 3 materials such as BL3 human, animal, or plant pathogens, BL3 non-exempt recombinant DNA, select agents, certain biological toxins and BL3 agents requiring registration with the Connecticut State Department of Public Health, Center for Disease Control and Prevention, or U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Key:
Pathological waste
BL1 & BL2 waste (low risk – LR)
BL2 waste (moderate risk - MR)/BL3 waste
Blood

Note: it is essential that large pieces of metal and empty chemical bottles not be placed in the medical waste stream. These items could damage our biomedical waste processing equipment and/or injure our employees.