



Stericycle®

Protecting People. Reducing Risk.™

Category A Waste Handling & Packaging Procedures Guidelines for a Suspected or Confirmed Case of Ebola

- With a suspected or confirmed Ebola case immediately contact the local/state health department and CDC.
- All waste generated from a suspected/confirmed patient should be treated as special Category A DOT waste as follows:
 1. Make sure you are utilizing all PPE and following all applicable guidelines as directed by the following link from the CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/index.html>
 2. Obtain most current copy of US DOT Special Permit 16279: <http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/transporting-infectious-substances>
 3. Place soft waste or sealed sharps containers into a primary ASTM-tested medical waste red bag. No free flowing liquids; sufficient absorbent material in the form of a solidifying agent, paper towels or other absorbent material must be placed in the bag.
 4. Apply bleach or other virucidal disinfectant meeting the CDC requirements into the primary bag to sufficiently cover the surface of materials contained within the bag; securely tie the bag.
 5. Treat the exterior surface of the primary container with bleach or other virucidal disinfectant.
 6. Place the primary bag into a secondary bag and securely tie the outer bag.
 7. Treat the exterior surface of the secondary bag with bleach or other virucidal disinfectant.

**If you HAVE ordered and have been provided the appropriate special Category A DOT Waste containers, go to Step 10 below
(triple-walled fiber “Green Drum” or Poly/Plastic Container)**

If you do NOT have special Category A DOT Waste containers on site, continue to Step 8 below

8. The double bagged waste should then be placed on a hard non-porous surface in a secure room close to the point of generation. Make sure the collection area is clearly labeled special Category A DOT Waste.
9. Contact your Stericycle representative who will arrange delivery of the special Category A DOT Waste containers.
- 10. As soon as the special Category A DOT Waste Containers arrive, follow step 11 below.**
11. The double bagged waste should then be placed into special Category A DOT Waste containers provided by Stericycle. If you are using the Green Drum with the provided 6 mil. liner, place absorbent material (i.e. vermiculite or other appropriate absorbent material sufficient to hold potential liquid content) into the bottom of the clear 6 mil. liner, then tie securely per the closure instructions and close the container per the packaging instructions provided with the fiber “Green Drums”. If you are using Poly Drums, place absorbent material (i.e. vermiculite or other appropriate absorbent material sufficient to hold potential liquid content) into the bottom of the poly drum, then place the double-bagged waste directly into the Poly Drum. Use caution in placing bags into either container to avoid contamination on the outer container.
12. Store the FULL Category A DOT Waste containers separate from other regulated medical waste in a secure area, preferably isolated and with limited access BUT NOT IN the patient/isolation room in order to avoid contamination of the drum. Place special markings on the door of the secured area to ensure there is no unauthorized access. Drums should not be labeled at this time. Per the DOT, wipe down or

spray down outside of Green Drum/Poly drums as you move them from the waste generating area into the main storage area with bleach or other virucidal disinfectant.

13. If the case is confirmed as Ebola, please contact your Stericycle Representative who will arrange to have 95 gallon overpack drums, all appropriate labels and a storage trailer delivered to your site. These drums are required by the Category A Waste destruction incinerator facility. Please see packing instructions for the 95 gallon overpack drums below (additional pictorial slick to will also be delivered with the labels only upon notification of a confirmed case of Ebola):

- **The 95 gallon overpack drum should not be stored or packed in the Category A Waste storage area. Per the SP the outer drum must not enter into the Ebola contaminated area.**
 - **Remove the 55 Gallon special Category A DOT Waste Green Drum/Poly Drum from the Category A Waste storage area (containers should have been wiped down – step 12).**
 - **Overpack the 55 Gallon special Category A DOT Waste into the plastic 95 gallon overpack drum. The 95 gallon drum shall be closed in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions and the lid shall have duct style tape applied at the interface of the lid and the body of the drum in a manner to secure the lid in the closed position and also to provide additional security and prevent tampering.**
 - **Wipe down or spray the outer 95 gallon drum with bleach or other virucidal disinfectant.**
 - **Only Label the outermost 95 gallon overpack drum with the Category A labels.**
 - **Load the 95 gallon overpack drum onto the Stericycle trailer.**
- ✓ Stericycle recommends using disposable sharps containers for suspected/confirmed Ebola cases. The disposable containers should be sealed and disposed of as special Category A waste following the instructions above. If a reusable sharps container is inadvertently used, that container should also be sealed and disposed of inside the bags with the Category A waste. The outer cabinet or bracket of an inadvertently used reusable sharps container should be discarded with the Category A waste. As always, sharps containers should only be used for sharps waste; soft infectious waste should be discarded in red bag. *Contact your Stericycle representative should you need additional supplies to properly package Category A waste.*
- ✓ *We will develop additional guidance for contingency planning as more information becomes available.*
- ✓ *Attached is the most recent version of the US DOT Special Permit 16279 First Revision. For most current version of the Special Permit should there be updates please go to :*
<http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/transporting-infectious-substances>
- ✓ *Should there be waste that is larger than the containers available, please contact your Stericycle representative immediately and please refer to the DOT –SP 16279 for most current instructions on packaging systems. NOTE: In some circumstances, Stericycle **may not** be able to manage this waste (e.g. furnishings from patients’ homes, etc.)*

Additional information sources:

CDC: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/index.html>

U.S. DOT: <http://phmsa.dot.gov/hazmat/transporting-infectious-substances>

OSHA: <https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/ebola/index.html>