

A large red biohazard bag is the central focus, positioned in a hospital room. The bag features a prominent biohazard symbol and the word 'BIOHAZARD' in bold, capital letters. Below this, there is a label with the word 'Date:' followed by a blank space, and another label with the text 'Pacche Louettes' and '80 PER'. The background shows a typical hospital setting with blue medical carts, a red office chair, and a patient bed. The text 'MEDICAL WASTE WORKSHOP' is written in large, bold, black capital letters across the top of the bag, and 'Small Quantity Generators' is written in a smaller, black serif font below it.

MEDICAL WASTE WORKSHOP

Small Quantity Generators



WHO ARE WE?

The mission of the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department (EMD) is to protect public health and the environment by ensuring compliance with environmental regulations.

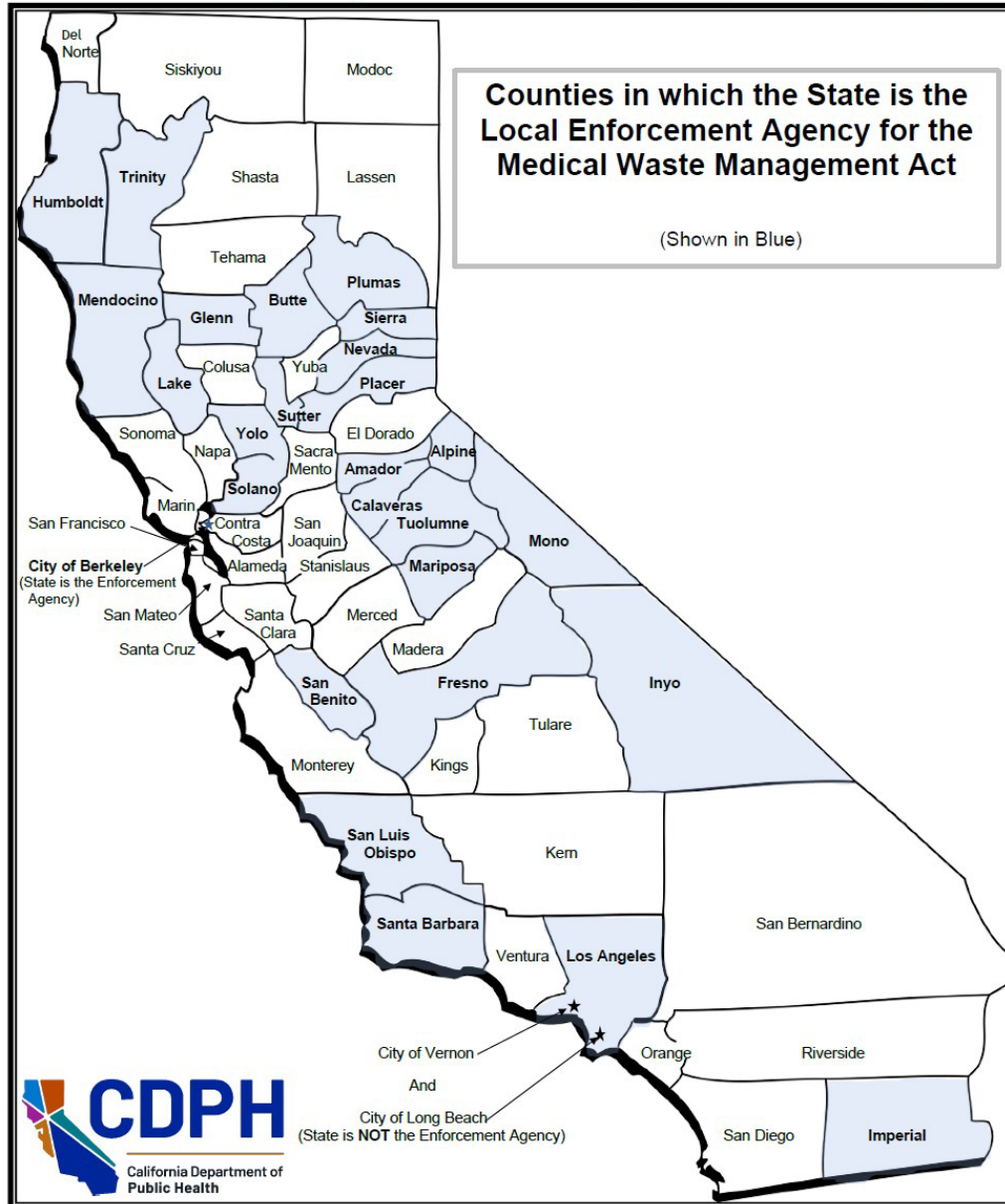
LOCAL ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (LEA)

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (CDPH)

Regulates the generation, handling, storage, treatment, and disposal of medical waste by providing oversight for the implementation of the Medical Waste Management Act (MWMA).

LEA

Adopts through an ordinance or resolution by the local governing body to implement a medical waste management program and implements the MWMA. Sacramento County is the LEA for the MWMA.



MEDICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT (MWMA)

WHAT IS IT?

- Establishes regulations for the management of medical waste in the state to protect public health and the environment.

CALIFORNIA HEALTH & SAFETY CODE

- Sections 117600-118360

STANDARDS & GUIDELINES

- Outlines standards and guidelines for medical waste generators and treatment facilities to ensure proper handling, treatment, and disposal of medical waste
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WHY DOES OUR BUSINESS NEED A SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR MEDICAL WASTE PERMIT/REGISTRATION?

- In July 2021 Sacramento County Board of Supervisors approved Sacramento County Ordinance section 6.99.400.
- This ordinance allows the Local Enforcement Agency to oversee regulatory compliance for medical waste facilities within the county and incorporated cities.
- The ordinance approved recovery of costs for biennial (every 2 years) registration/permitting of small quantity generators (SQG) under the Medical Waste Management Act (MWMA).



MEDICAL WASTE GENERATOR

MEANS ANY PERSON WHOSE ACT OR PROCESS PRODUCES MEDICAL WASTE

EXAMPLES OF BUSINESSES THAT GENERATE MEDICAL WASTE

- **Medical offices**
- **Dental offices**
- **Clinics**
- **Hospitals**
- **Surgery Centers**
- **Medical spas**
- **Laboratories**
- **Veterinary offices, clinics and hospitals**
- **Pet shops**



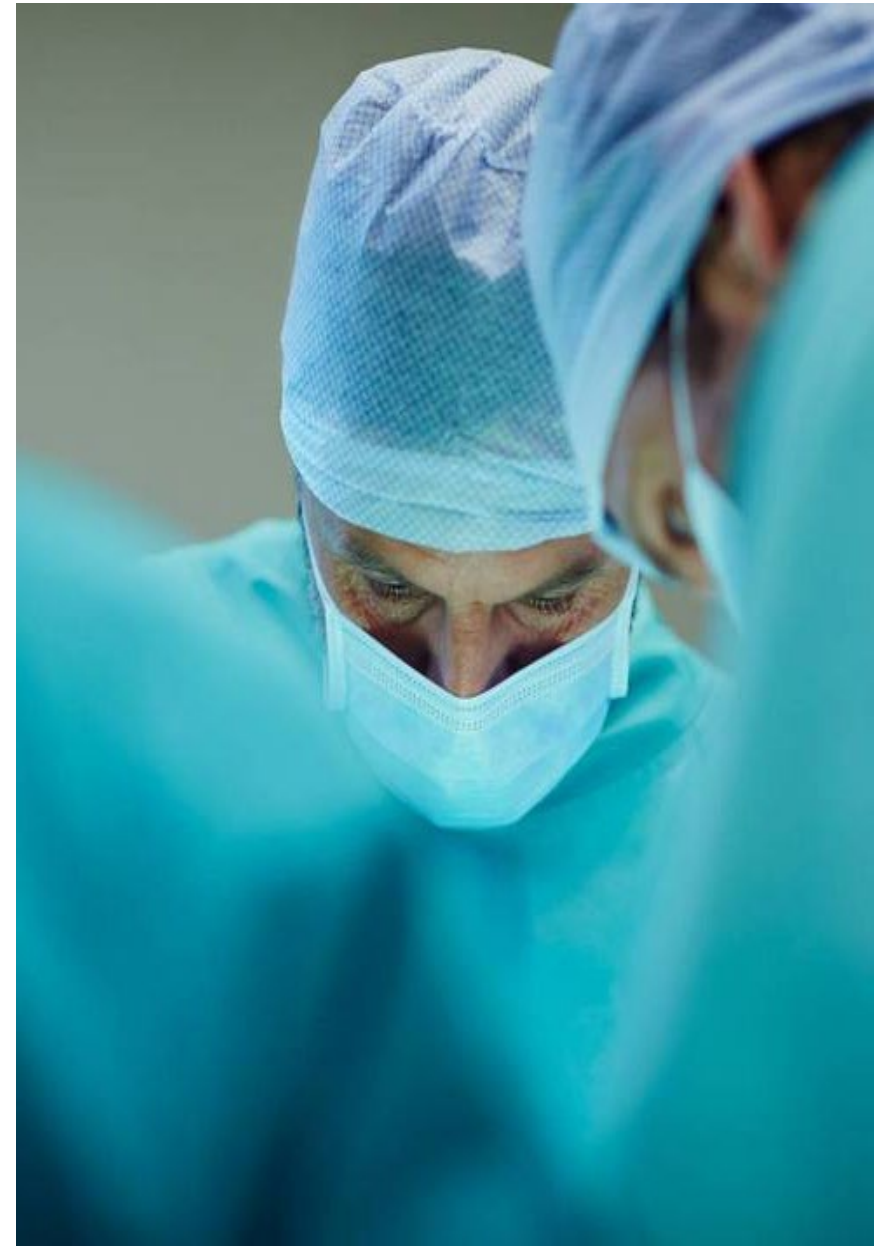
SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR

A medical waste generator
that generates less than
200 pounds per month of
medical waste



SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR REQUIREMENTS

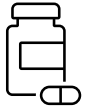
- SQGs must apply for a medical waste permit with the Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) per the Medical Waste Management Act (MWMA).
- Keep on-site a medical waste information document sec 117495.
- Each medical waste generator permit issued by the LEA is valid for 2 years.
- An application for renewal of the registration shall be filed with our department on or before the expiration date (every 2 years).
- Must use a medical waste transporter to transport waste to the proper treatment and disposal facility.
- Maintain for a minimum of three years individual treatment operating records or the tracking document for all untreated medical waste shipped offsite for treatment by a medical waste hauler.
- Store and maintain medical waste in compliance with the MWMA.



WHAT IS MEDICAL WASTE?



BIOHAZARDOUS



PHARMACEUTICAL



SHARPS



PATHOLOGY



TRACE
CHEMOTHERAPY





BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

- Includes:
 - Waste derived from medical treatment, diagnosis, or immunization of a human or an animal
 - Waste suspected of containing a highly communicable disease
 - Laboratory waste
 - Waste containing visible blood
 - Discarded materials contaminated with excretions or secretions from humans or animals
-



BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

- Examples:
 - Saturated gauze or swabs
 - Contaminated gloves or other PPE
 - IV tubing and blood bags
 - Human or animal specimen cultures
 - Sealed sharps containers
-

Biohazardous Waste

Biohazard bags:

- Must be red
- Must be marked with ASTM D1922 and ASTM D1709 certifications



Close bag with a single overhand knot:



Do not close by crossing tabs
("bunny or dog-ear" method)



Biohazardous Waste

Containers:

- Rigid
- Leak-resistant
- Tight-fitting cover
- Clean and in good repair
- Lid and sides labeled with the words “Biohazardous Waste” or with the international biohazard symbol



SHARPS WASTE

Examples:

Needles, scalpels, broken glass

Disposable suture sets

Biopsy forceps

Intact glass or bottles with body fluid or blood

Root canal files

Sharps Waste

Sharps container:

- FDA-approved
- Rigid and puncture-resistant
- Must not be lined with a plastic bag or inner liner
- Check fill line (usually $\frac{3}{4}$)
- Label on container has the words “sharps waste” or with the international biohazard symbol and the word biohazard. It is needed only on the front of the container.

MAKE SURE
container is not
overfilled or damaged.





PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE

- Prescription or over-the-counter human or veterinary drugs, including drugs as defined in Section 109925 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.
- Does not include any pharmaceutical regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) or the Radiation Control Law.

Pharmaceutical Waste

Examples:

- All sharps containing medication
- Non-RCRA pharmaceuticals
- Residual medications of any kind, including epinephrine syringes, NTG patches, partially used inhalers

Pharmaceutical Waste

Container must be labeled on the lid and all visible sides with the words “HIGH HEAT” or “INCINERATION ONLY”.

Pharmaceutical waste and sharps waste may be consolidated into one container with proper labeling. It must be treated by incineration.



PATHOLOGY WASTE

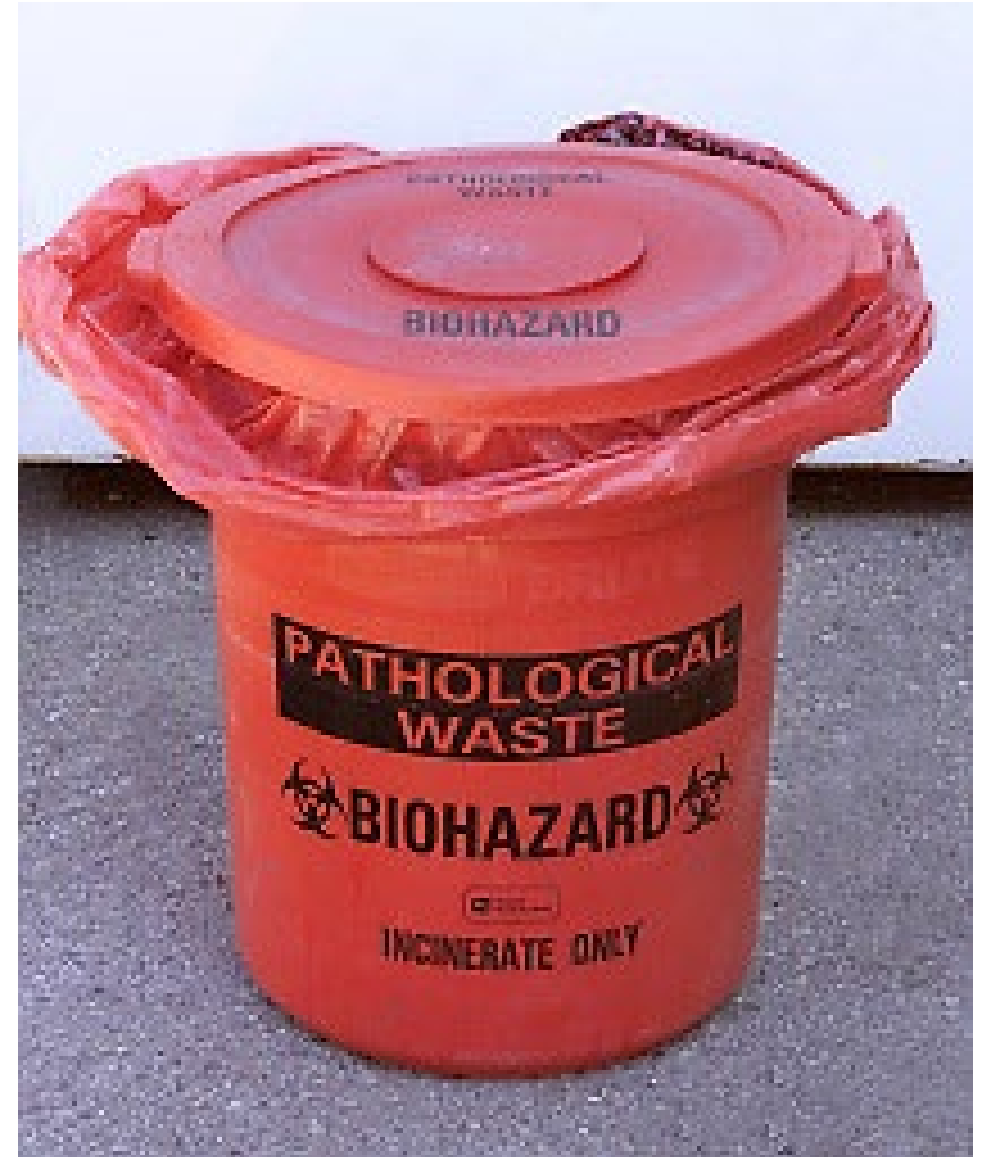
- Human body parts (except teeth) removed at surgery.
- Specimens or tissue removed at surgery/autopsy and not fixed in formaldehyde.
- Animal parts, tissues, fluids, or carcasses suspected of being contaminated with infectious agents known to be contagious to humans.



Pathological Waste

Lid and sides must be labeled with the words “Pathology Waste” or “PATH”.

Pathology waste incinerated or interred (placed into grave, tomb, etc.).



TRACE CHEMOTHERAPY WASTE

- Waste contaminated through contact with, or previously containing, chemotherapeutic agents.
- “Chemotherapeutic agent” is an agent that kills or prevents the reproduction of malignant cells.
- Examples of waste: Gloves, gowns, towels, IV bags, tubing.



Trace Chemotherapeutic Waste

Must not be lined with plastic bag or inner liner.

Must be labeled on lid and all visible sides with the words “Chemotherapy Waste” or “CHEMO”





STORAGE TIMES

- Biohazardous, pathology, and chemotherapy waste stored above 32° Fahrenheit can be kept onsite for a maximum of **7 days** (>20lbs/month) or **30 days** (<20lbs/month).
- Maximum of 90 days if stored below 32° F
- Sharps waste can be stored for a maximum of **30 days** when the container is full.
- Pharmaceutical waste can be stored for a maximum of **90 days** when the container is full.

Accumulation Areas

Interim storage area:

- Medical waste is stored in an area prior to transfer to the designated accumulation area
- Must be locked or under direct supervision/surveillance.
- Area must be marked with the international biohazard symbol or warning sign.

Signs must be legible during daylight and from a distance of at least 25 feet.



Accumulation Areas

Designated Accumulation Area:

- Medical waste containers are stored prior to transportation or treatment.
- Must be secured to deny access to unauthorized persons using locks on entry doors, gates, or receptacle lids.
- Warning sign on door in English and another language.
“CAUTION-BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA-
UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT”
- Signs must be legible during daylight and from a distance of at least 25 feet.



CAUTION
HAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA
UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT

CUIDADO
ZONA DE RESIDUOS BIOLÓGICOS PELIGROSOS
PROHIBIDA LA ENTRADA A PERSONAS
NO AUTORIZADAS

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY

  
1-800-MED-WASTE

BIOLOGIC
CAUTION
HAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA
UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT




CUIDADO
ZONA DE RESIDUOS BIOLÓGICOS PELIGROSOS
PROHIBIDA LA ENTRADA A PERSONAS
NO AUTORIZADAS

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY
510-265-1900 247 ALDINE

CAUTION
HAZARDOUS WASTE STORAGE AREA
UNAUTHORIZED PERSONS KEEP OUT

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HOW TO APPLY FOR A SMALL QUANTITY GENERATOR PERMIT



PAPER APPLICATION

Located at:

<https://emd.saccounty.gov/EMDForms/Pages/EMDForms-Waste.aspx#medical>

Email to: medicalwaste@saccounty.gov

ONLINE (COMING JUNE 2025)

<https://myhealthdepartment.com/sacramento>

“How to guide” located on this website.

THANK YOU



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