

Disposal of Animal Carcasses and Animal Waste

Purpose:

To identify requirements for disposal of non-contaminated animal carcasses and animal waste.

Procedure:

- 1) Animals or animal waste contaminated with isotopes, carcinogens, or infectious agents require special consideration. Such agents must be detailed in the IACUC application where specifics of carcass handling will be determined.
- 2) In the ACF, all soiled material is transported to the dirty cage wash area (037), soiled bedding and refuse is then dumped into a black can liner that is pre fitted into a 32 gallon Rubbermaid waste container. After the bags are filled to a manageable level, they are pulled out and placed inside an oversized tilt truck. When the tilt truck is filled with the filled can liners, it is transported to a dumpster that is located at the facility's dock area. The dumpster is emptied weekly.
- 3) Animal carcasses for disposal or necropsy should be handled with respect; major surgical intervention must be sutured prior to disposal. Federal law specifically requires that the Principal Investigator assure death of the animal. Rodent carcasses should then be placed in biohazard bags for incineration or disposal. Identification on the outside of the bag is required on all carcasses for necropsy.
- 4) The primary sites for the disposal of non-contaminated carcasses is a refrigerator in Room 026 for specimens waiting for necropsy, tissue removal, or disposal.
- 5) Every Monday morning the container is taken to the ACF's dock area. The red biohazard bag is then removed, and placed into a Steri-Cycle container and labeled with an appropriate identification sticker. On Tuesday morning, the outside contractor (Steri-Cycle) removes the loaded containers from the building.