

## UNIVERSITY ANIMAL FACILITIES POLICY AND PROCEDURE STATEMENT

### Disposal of Lab Animal Carcasses and Discarded Animal Tissue

**Policy:** Lab animal carcasses and discarded animal tissue are handled and treated as “Regulated Medical Waste” by the Bowling Green State University Animal Facilities, in accordance with State and Federal regulations. University Animal Facilities maintains a contract with Accu-Medical Waste Services, Inc.\* for disposal of all lab animal carcasses and discarded animal tissue.

**Procedure:**

Non-preserved animal carcasses

Non-preserved animal carcasses (those **not** preserved using fixatives, such as Formalin, Bouin’s solution, Zenker’s fixative, etc.) should be placed in Ziploc<sup>®</sup> or similar-type bags with a re-sealable closure (size permitting) or 4ml black plastic garbage can liners. Large carcasses, large amounts of tissue, or large numbers of small carcasses (any amount of tissue greater than 15 pounds) should be double bagged in 4ml black plastic garbage can liners. Bagged carcasses should then be placed in a freezer and held in frozen storage until disposal. Please contact the University Animal Facilities Director at (419) 372-8753 to arrange for disposal.

Preserved animal carcasses/tissues

Preserved carcasses or tissue specimens must be removed from preservatives or fixative solutions prior to disposal. Following removal from preservative, carcasses should be placed in Ziploc<sup>®</sup> or similar-type re-sealable storage bags (size permitting) or 4ml black plastic garbage can liners. Large carcasses, large amounts of tissue, or large numbers of small carcasses (any amount of tissue greater than 15 pounds) should be double bagged in 4ml black plastic garbage can liners. Bagged, preserved carcasses should then be placed in a freezer and held in frozen storage until disposal. Please contact the University Animal Facilities Director at (419) 372-8753 to arrange disposal.

**Please note:** All carcass bags must be sealed and intact, in order to prevent leakage of fluid or other biological materials. **Under no circumstances will torn or leaking bags, from which animal tissues or fluids may escape, be accepted for disposal by the University Animal Facilities.**

Hazardous Wastes

University Animal Facilities will only dispose of hazardous wastes that cannot be separated from or removed from animal carcasses or tissues. This includes preservatives or fixatives present in

preserved specimens, and hazardous chemicals or chemical residue remaining in tissues or carcasses following exposure of animals or tissues to chemicals in the course of IACUC-approved procedures.

University Animal Facilities is **not responsible** for disposal of used preservative or fixative solutions, or other hazardous chemicals or chemical wastes not inextricably associated with lab animal carcasses or tissues. Please visit the BGSU Office of Environmental Health and Safety Hazardous Waste website (<http://www.bgsu.edu/offices/envhs/page18352.html>) for information on Hazardous Waste management and disposal, or contact the BGSU Office of Environmental Health and Safety at (419) 372-2171.

\* Accu-Medical Waste Services, Inc. is full service medical waste management and disposal company that provides transportation and disposal of regulated medical waste in a manner consistent with State and Federal regulations and guidelines. Accu-Medical Waste Services, Inc. is licensed by the Ohio EPA and the Ohio State Board of Pharmacy.