

22nd July 2024

Stericycle Healthcare Waste Acceptance Policy

Stericycle policy requires compliance with all applicable regulations regarding the collection, transportation and treatment of healthcare waste. Regulations require the producer of healthcare waste to correctly identify, describe, classify, segregate, package and consign the waste. To ensure that neither Stericycle nor the producer of healthcare waste violates applicable regulations, it is imperative that all parties understand the rules regarding proper identification, description, classification, segregation, packaging and consignment of healthcare waste. The purpose of this policy is to summarise the minimum requirements for preparing your medical waste for collection, transportation and treatment. Compliance with these requirements is required under your contract with Stericycle, and non-compliance may result in suspension of services and/or additional costs being charged to you. Additional waste type, facility or devolved country specific waste acceptance policies may apply based on local guidance or permit specifications. Please contact your account representative for further information or email supportuk@stericycle.com.

HEALTHCARE WASTE

Stericycle accepts healthcare waste produced by a broad range of medical, diagnostic, therapeutic, research and related activities. The term 'healthcare waste' includes clinical waste and offensive waste as defined in regulations. 'Clinical waste' is healthcare waste containing any of the following: viable infectious micro-organisms or their toxins; medicines containing a biologically active pharmaceutical agent; sharp items, body fluids or other biological material containing a hazardous substance; waste from a similar nature from a non-healthcare activity. 'Offensive waste' is waste that contains body fluids, secretions or excretions but does not meet the definition of clinical waste.

WASTE SEGREGATION & PACKAGING

The waste producer is responsible for properly segregating, packaging, labelling and consigning healthcare waste. This is a legal requirement under regulations pertaining to the duty of care for waste, hazardous/special/controlled waste and the carriage of dangerous goods. Proper segregation, packaging and labelling reduces the potential for accidental release or inappropriate treatment of the contents and exposure to employees, the general public and the environment. Waste must be segregated and packaged in colour-coded containers in accordance with the best practice guidance published by the NHS / Department of Health & Social Care (Health Technical Memorandum HTM07-01 or equivalents in devolved countries). Waste containers must comply with the requirements for the carriage of dangerous goods. Hazardous waste must not be mixed with non-hazardous waste or with different categories of hazardous waste. All segregated waste streams must be classified using the appropriate List of Waste (EWC) code(s). Chapter 18 (Wastes from human or animal health care and/or related research) codes must be used for healthcare wastes and chapter 20 (Municipal wastes (household and similar commercial, industrial and institutional wastes)) codes must be used for healthcare-type wastes from non-healthcare activities.

MANAGEMENT OF NON-CONFORMING WASTE

As required by regulation, permits and company policy, Stericycle employees may reject waste containers that are non-conforming because their contents are non-conforming or because the containers are improperly packaged, sealed, leaking, damaged or likely to create a risk of exposure to employees, the general public or the environment. Any waste found to be non-conforming to this waste acceptance policy identified at point of collection, on route to, or at a Stericycle location, may be returned to the producer for proper packaging and treatment, or may be re-routed for appropriate treatment. Proper segregation and packaging is essential to ensure compliant and safe handling, collection, transportation and treatment of healthcare waste

STERICYCLE HEALTHCARE WASTE ACCEPTANCE POLICY CHECKLIST

ACCEPTED HEALTHCARE WASTE & COLOUR CODE	
Infectious clinical waste suitable for treatment	Orange
Infectious clinical waste requiring incineration	Yellow
Sharps waste without medicinal contamination	Orange
Sharps waste with medicinal contamination	Yellow
Cytotoxic and cytostatic waste (including sharps, medicines & infectious waste)	Purple
Anatomical waste with no special handling requirements under Human Tissue Authority guidance	Red
Non-hazardous waste medicines	Blue
Offensive waste	Green
ACCEPTED HEALTHCARE WASTE SUBJECT TO PRIOR ARRANGEMENT (TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT & SPECIAL HANDLING REQUIRED)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waste containing genetically modified organisms, micro-organisms or plants Waste containing scheduled controlled drugs Waste containing legally restricted confidential materials (including police & customs seized goods & evidence) Waste containing animal by-products Waste with special handling requirements defined under Human Tissue Authority guidance Untreated laboratory waste containing category A pathogens Infectious waste arising from the treatment of humans or animals with a category A pathogen disease Waste healthcare chemicals (including laboratory smalls) or bulk volume pharmaceuticals Waste containing persistent organic pollutants (POPs) Low level radioactive waste Waste containing prions (proteins causing Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease and other transmissible spongiform encephalopathies) Wastes that are highly flammable, oxidising, spontaneously combustible, water reactive or organic peroxides Wastes containing gypsum (plaster casts and moulds) Dental and similar wastes (amalgam wastes, x-ray fixer & developer, lead foils, x-ray film) 	

NOT ACCEPTED BY STERICYCLE
<p>Prohibited Wastes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Batteries & waste electrical & electronic equipment Mercury (except dental amalgam wastes collected in designated containers under a dental waste contract) Wastes containing explosives Waste gases including aerosols or pressurised containers (with the exception of small pharmaceutical aerosols such as inhalers) Volatile heavy metals Radioactive waste other than combustible low-level radioactive waste Bulky items that are not combustible or shreddable (including sprung mattresses) Wastes containing human tissue managed without application of relevant Human Tissue Authority guidance Controlled drugs which have not been denatured (unless a bespoke witnessed destruction service has been agreed in respect of such waste)
<p>General Restrictions for all wastes, including accepted wastes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual item or package gross weight must not exceed 20 kgs. Individual items or packages must fit within a 770ltr wheeled cart (without compression or compaction). 770ltr wheeled carts gross weight must not exceed 200 kgs. 770ltr wheeled carts or individual packages must not contain more than 10 kgs of glass. Heavy metals (Antimony, Arsenic, Chromium, Cobalt, Copper, Lead, Manganese, Nickel, Vanadium, Zinc) content must not exceed 100 g total per package and 500 g total per 770ltr wheeled cart Chlorine content must not exceed 200 g total per package and 1000 g total per 770ltr wheeled cart Other halogens (Bromine, Fluorine & Iodine) content must not exceed 50 g each per package and 250 g each per 770ltr wheeled cart Sulphur content must not exceed 200 g total per package and 1000 g total per 770ltr wheeled cart Flammable liquids must not exceed 2.5 ltrs per package and 5 ltrs (flashpoint <21°C) / 7.5 ltrs (flashpoint >21°C - <55°C) / 10 ltrs (flashpoint >55°C) per 770ltr wheeled cart Non-flammable liquids must not exceed 5 ltrs per package and 20 ltrs per 770ltr wheeled cart

NON-COMPLIANCE WITH STERICYCLE'S WASTE ACCEPTANCE POLICY

Non-compliance with this Policy could result in serious injuries to Stericycle operatives and/or cause significant damage to Stericycle vehicles or facilities. Stericycle will therefore take action in cases of non-compliance. These actions will be proportionate to the extent, and potential risks, of non-compliance and may include:

- Waste Segregation Audit – an audit conducted by opening and inspecting the contents of a sample of your waste containers. The purpose of inspecting the contents is to determine whether the waste items present are appropriate for the waste type denoted by the bag colour code, container tag and consignment note, in order to identify the presence of any non-conforming wastes. Details of Stericycle's waste segregation audit policy are available on request.
- Suspension of service – if Stericycle reasonably believes that servicing you presents immediate risks to the safety of its operatives and/or to legal compliance.
- Redirection of waste and adjustment of charges – where service may safely continue but the waste is incorrectly segregated and/or consigned, and requires a different method of treatment or processing in order to be compliant. This may result in additional charges to you, for example if incineration is required rather than alternative treatment.

Training and customer materials relating to compliant segregation are available from Stericycle on request,

WASTE BILLED BY WEIGHT

For contracts where Stericycle's services are determined by the weight of waste collected, the weighing is undertaken at Stericycle's processing facility. In the event that actual weights cannot be determined for any such services (for example, due to a temporary malfunction with the relevant technology), indicative weights may be used to determine the cost invoiced under the applicable contract. Stericycle determines indicative weights for each of its standard containers based on average weights reported across Stericycle's customer population, per country.

Average net waste weight per 770ltr cart for 2023-24 is set out in the following table for each waste type. Any other container size billed by weight will be charged pro rata based on the volume of the container.

Stericycle Waste Code	EWC Code and Description	Average Weight (kgs)
HT	180103 Infectious healthcare waste suitable for alternative treatment	46.4
HL	180104 Offensive non-hazardous healthcare waste	49.6
HI	180103 Infectious healthcare waste requiring incineration	53.2
HS	180103 / 180109 Infectious medicinal sharps waste	60.3
HY	180108 Hazardous medicinal (cytotoxic / cytostatic) waste	52.5
HP	180109 Non-hazardous waste medicines	76.7
HA	180103 Infectious anatomical waste requiring incineration	61.6
HN	180103 Infectious non-medicinal sharps waste	54.9
HC	180106 Hazardous healthcare chemical waste for recovery or incineration	65.2
HG	180104 Non-hazardous healthcare gypsum waste for recovery or incineration	65.6
LI	180103 Infectious laboratory waste requiring incineration	69.4
VT	180202 Infectious veterinary waste suitable for alternative treatment	66.1
VL	180203 Offensive non-hazardous veterinary waste	85.8
VI	180202 Infectious veterinary waste requiring incineration	79.8
VP	180208 Non-hazardous veterinary waste medicines	115.1
VY	180207 Hazardous veterinary medicinal (cytotoxic / cytostatic) waste	64.4
VA	180202 Infectious veterinary anatomical waste requiring incineration	74.7
NI	200199 Other non-haz waste for incineration (seized drugs, drug litter, accident materials)	64.7
ML	200199 Offensive non-hazardous waste from municipal sources	83.2
NL	180101 / 180201 Non-infectious non-medicinal sharps waste	41.9
GI	180103 Infectious genetically modified micro-organism waste	60.7
GM	180104 Inactivated genetically modified micro-organism waste	54
GA	020102 Genetically modified animal waste	92.6
GX	020103 Genetically modified plant waste	73.2
ZI	150110 Hazardous contaminated waste packaging	62.3
RI	Low level radioactive waste for incineration	43.2
A1	020202 Category 1 animal by-products waste	84
A2	020203 Category 2 animal by-products waste	60.4
A3	020299 Category 3 animal by-products waste	99
LX	180104 Offensive non-hazardous / inactivated laboratory waste	92.6
HD	180107 Non-hazardous healthcare chemical waste for recovery or incineration	75.1
VC	180205 Hazardous veterinary chemical waste for recovery or incineration	103.5
HB	180103 Human tissue authority waste for incineration	77.4
MP	200132 Non-hazardous waste municipal medicines	85.5
NA	180102 Non-infectious non-chemical anatomical waste for incineration	81.1
MS	180103 / 200132 Infectious medicinal municipal sharps waste	70.3

Stericycle Waste Code	EWC Code and Description	Average Weight (kgs)
NT	180102 Non-infectious blood products waste suitable for alternative treatment	38.3
HM	180103 Infectious healthcare metals waste for treatment and recovery	37.9
LC	160506 Hazardous laboratory chemicals for recovery or incineration	102.4
MT	180103 Infectious municipal waste suitable for alternative treatment	74.4
VD	180205 Non-hazardous veterinary chemical waste for recovery or incineration	58.5
MY	200131 Hazardous (cytotoxic / cytostatic) waste municipal medicines	47.7