

MSB 315 Biohazard Waste Autoclave Procedure

Updated Mar 2024

Important reminders before you begin:

- ALL users must receive training on autoclave use
- book your time using Clustermarket (<https://app.clustermarket.com/login>)
- use only bags designated for autoclave waste
- Bags must:
 - labeled with your name and lab or extension
 - not be more than ~70% full
 - be placed in a bin/tray to catch any liquids that leak out
 - NOT be sealed (steam needs to penetrate contents)
- DO NOT over-tighten the door: aim for very snug. Over-tightening will damage the seal and cause it to leak.
- the large bin on the floor is for treated/decontaminated waste ONLY
- close the autoclave doors when not in use to conserve energy and reduce room heat
- contact Boun Thai (boun.thai@schulich.uwo.ca) for assistance

When you're ready:

1. Autoclave 1 (Large) only, for biohazard waste
2. ****Label bags with your lab and room number****
3. Place bags in plastic bins or metal trays on the autoclave trolley
4. Open bags to allow steam to penetrate contents

5. Close the door, turning the wheel until it's very snug, not more.
6. Run a LIQUID cycle of 60 min (preset 3)
7. ****Fill in the log sheet****
8. Monitor for leaks: don't leave the autoclave until it exceeds 100 °C.
9. When the cycle is complete, move the bags to the large bin on the floor to cool.
10. Allow any liquids that have leaked from the bags during the run to cool to room temperature.

NEVER POUR AGAR / AGAROSE DOWN THE SINK

- If the liquid becomes viscous or solidifies, scrape it into a garbage bag.
 - If it remains watery/runny, it can be poured down the sink with running water.
11. Once cooled, place the decontaminated biohazard waste into the black garbage bags provided. Don't overfill so the bags are manageable for caretaking.
 12. Using the green stickers, label with your name, the autoclave room number (MSB 315), and date. Apply to the outside of each garbage bag.
 13. Place bags out in the hall by the other garbage bins for removal by caretaking.