**COVID-19 WASTE GUIDANCE SUMMARY**


**Purpose:** Guidance for managing municipal solid waste (MSW) and biohazard waste1 with potential or known COVID-19 contamination to reduce employee risk and ensure safe disposal.

**Applicability:** All Port employees, contractors, tenants, and operators that generate, handle, or manage MSW and biohazard wastes at SEA.

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**Key Guidance**

- For MSW and biohazard waste with potential or known COVID-19 contamination, workers and employers should manage these wastes like any other non-contaminated MSW or biohazard waste.

- Handle waste from ill/symptomatic passengers as biohazard, place in red biohazard bag, and dispose in designated biohazard waste receptacle.

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**Recommended Handling and Disposal for waste sources and types**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waste Source and Type</th>
<th>Handle/Dispose as</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deplaned (originating during domestic* flight operations)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabin waste where no passenger or crew are ill/symptomatic</td>
<td>MSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All waste and PPE from treatment of ill/symptomatic passengers or crew</td>
<td>Biohazard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airport Buildings</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All waste and PPE from treatment, testing, or health-screening of ill/symptomatic individuals</td>
<td>Biohazard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSW from unidentified but potentially ill/symptomatic individuals</td>
<td>MSW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MSW from asymptomatic/healthy individuals</td>
<td>MSW</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Handle and dispose deplaned waste from international flights according to USDA APHIS requirements for Regulated Garbage.*

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**General Waste Management Procedures**

- Continue using typical engineering and administrative controls, safe work practices and PPE, such as gloves and face and eye protection for handling MSW or biohazard waste, as appropriate.
- Securely close but do not compress bags used to transport MSW or biohazard waste.
- Continue sorting and disposing of MSW, recycling, and compostables following established SEA procedures.

**Monitor Changing Conditions and Guidance**

- Remain alert to changing outbreak conditions and implement infection prevention measures accordingly.
- Assess worker hazards, evaluate exposure risk, and ensure workers use exposure prevention precautions.
- Follow employer’s Health and Safety Plan regarding employee health screening and monitoring, exposure control practices, increased personal hygiene, and disinfection and sanitizing procedures.

**Prevent Contamination of Waste Streams**

- Label and locate biohazard waste containers near point of generation or accumulation.
- Update trash bin labels to show PPE (i.e. masks, gloves) or cloth face coverings go in trash.

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1 **Biohazard waste:** Liquid or semiliquid blood or other potentially infectious materials (OPIM - see complete guidance for OPIM definition); Contaminated items that would release blood or OPIM in a liquid or semiliquid state, if compressed; Items that are caked with dried blood or OPIM and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; Contaminated sharps; Pathological and microbiological wastes containing blood or OPIM.