

SAFETY FIRST

HANDLING BIOHAZARDOUS WASTE

Working in the solid waste industry comes with its own set of challenges, especially when it comes to handling biohazardous waste. Biohazardous waste poses unique risks that require careful attention and adherence to safety protocols. Whether you're a seasoned professional or new to the field, here are six succinct safety tips to keep in mind when dealing with biohazardous waste:

- 1. Always wear proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) when handling biohazardous waste.
- 2. Handle biohazardous waste with care to prevent spills or leaks. Use sturdy, leak-proof containers that are properly labeled and sealed to transport waste.
- **3.** Receive proper training on handling, storage, and disposal procedures.
- **4.** Follow established protocols for the safe disposal of biohazardous waste. Use designated disposal areas or facilities equipped to handle such waste.
- **5.** Take precautions to prevent cross-contamination between biohazardous waste and other materials. Clean and disinfect work surfaces and tools regularly.
- **6.** Be prepared to respond to emergencies involving biohazardous waste, such as spills or accidents. Have a detailed emergency response plan in place, including procedures for containment, cleanup, and notification of appropriate authorities.

By following these safety tips, workers in the solid waste industry can minimize the risks associated with handling biohazardous waste and help protect both themselves and the community from potential harm. Remember, safety should always be a top priority when dealing with hazardous materials. <u>Learn more by reading our SWANA Blog.</u>



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