

CITY OF BEND FIRE & RESCUE
POLICY, PROCEDURE, AND INSTRUCTION

Author:
EMS Division
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Reviewed By:
EMS Division
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SECTION: Emergency Medical Services

TITLE: Medical Waste

NUMBER: 1300-017

A. POLICY

- 1) It is the policy of Bend Fire & Rescue (BF&R) to:
 - Protect the public from any contamination due to medical waste that is produced by BF&R
 - To comply with the garbage disposal policy of SCMC
 - To comply with the medical waste policies of the garbage contractors who service BF&R which includes policies relating to:
 - ♦ Medical Bio-hazard
 - ♦ Sharps
 - ♦ Expired Drugs

B. PROCEDURES

- 1) All used needles (IV, BG, EZ IO, quick trach, syringe, etc.) will be disposed of in one of the following locations.
 - An approved sharps container at SCMC
 - Any approved sharps container provided by BF&R
- 2) Sealed sharp shuttles or sharp bins may be deposited in the large black bio-hazard bins located in the EMS room at each station.
- 3) Expired drugs will be placed in the expired drug bin at SCMC or in any of the stations EMS rooms. Any drug that will not fit into the drug bin will be sent to the EMS-Logistics Tech. Expired drugs are not to be disposed of in trash bins or in the bio-hazard bins in each station.
- 4) When the drug bin is full, the EMS Logistics Technician will supply the BF&R Training Division with any drugs needed for continuing education. Next the Specialist will offer the drugs to the SCMC Health and Learning Department for training purposes. Any remaining drugs will then be offered to the Central Oregon Community College (COCC) EMS program for training purposes. The EMS logistics technician will take expired medications to Bend Garbage or Deschutes County landfill for proper disposal.
- 5) The following medical waste must be disposed of by placing it in a red bio-hazard bag and then placed into the SCMC Bio-hazard bin or in a BF&R Bio-hazard bin.

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All attempts should be made to place the following items in a red bio-hazard bag and not into the clear plastic bags containing regular trash.

- Liquid - flowing body fluids
- Saturated items that if compressed would drip
- Suction canisters or tubing that has liquid body fluid inside of the canister or tubing
- IV bags and tubing

If the above bio-hazards do get placed into a clear plastic bag, then the clear plastic bag with all of its contents will be placed into a red bio-hazard bag and disposed of as above.

- 6) All other medical waste not described in section B5 will be disposed of by one of two methods.
 - The medical trash will be disposed of in a regular trash can at SCMC and the trash will be in clear plastic bags.
 - The medical trash will be disposed of in a BF&R bio-hazard bin. Due to concerns about children playing in dumpsters or adults dumpster diving, no trash from any ambulance or medical call will be disposed of in any BF&R outside trash bin.
- 7) All gloves and medical supplies used by an engine crew, for patient care, will be disposed of by placing them in the trash bin on the ambulance or the medical waste in the Bio-Hazard bins at the station.
- 8) The only gloves that are to be placed in the regular BF&R trash cans or outside dumpsters are gloves that were worn for non-medical purposes such as training, pumping fuel, checking oil, cleaning the station, etc.