

School Board of Brevard County

1254 S. Florida Avenue • Rockledge, FL 32955

Debra Pace, Ph.D., Acting Superintendent




July 01, 2015

MEMORANDUM

To: Ginger Davis, Science Resource Teacher

Copy: Robin Novelli, Director of High School Programs - Curriculum & Instruction
Dane Theodore, Assistant Superintendent of Facilities Services

From: Jim Powers 

RE: Science Education - Animal Dissection Waste, Disposal Process Change

Please inform all of the appropriate BPS science educators of the following subject changes:

PROCESS CHANGE (ACTION ITEMS)

- 1) Discontinue processing work order requests for specimen/animal dissection waste pick-up and disposal service from the District's Plant Operations and Maintenance Department (via: *Customer Service Center*).
- 2) Drip-dry used/unwanted specimens prior to placing them into a disposal container (i.e. plastic pail, double-lined garbage bag, etc.), and make sure all containers are sealed tight.
- 3) Place animal dissection waste containers into the school's solid waste dumpster. The specimen waste will be disposed at the local landfill along with the other routine solid waste generated by the school.

INFORMATION ITEMS

All bulk liquid formalin left over from animal disposal shall be treated as a separate regulated waste, and must not be disposed on site (i.e. do not dilute and pour down drain). Process a routine Maintenance Work Order Request for bulk formalin or bulk formaldehyde disposal. The EH&S Office will arrange for proper transport and disposal similar to other regulated science/chemistry waste.

Best practice is to purchase vacuum packaged specimen to avoid excessive weight in costly shipping and excessive cost in regulated waste disposal. Also consider purchasing specimens preserved in products other than formalin (i.e. alcohol and propylene glycol), as a means to prevent costly disposal of regulated formalin waste.

Our EH&S Office received clarification from the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Brevard County Landfill Management that routine secondary education animal dissection waste (containing formalin, glycols, alcohol, etc.) are acceptable at the County Landfill as long as there is no liquid waste generated.

Remind staff that the BPS discontinued using 'Biomedical Waste Hauling Services' for specimen/animal waste disposal in 2013. Do not use biomedical waste containers (located in School Health Clinic) for dissection waste disposal.

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Jim Powers, Environmental Health & Safety Manager

Plant Operation Department 9560: Office of Environmental Health & Safety / Facilities Services Division

Phone: (321) 633-3580 ext. 13074 • FAX: (321) 617-7756



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