Where does all that garbage go?

	Regulated Medical Waste (RMW) Biohazardous Waste		Hazardous Medication Waste		Protected Health Information (PHI), Highly Sensitive Data (HSD), and Agency Records* (Approval Required)		General Trash Municipal Solid Waste
	Non-Sharp	Sharp	Trace Hazardous Meds	> Trace Hazardous Meds	100% Paper	Non-Paper	Trash
Waste Containers	Red-Bag Container	Sharps Container	Yellow Sharps Container	Black Sharps Container	Confidential Destruction Console	Red Bag Container	Beige Trash Bin
Definition	 Potentially infectious waste materials contaminated by blood and body fluids (BBF) Tissue and anatomical waste that is not a recognizable body part (Contact Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) at 2-4911 if recognizable) Cultures/stocks of biologicals or microorganisms Medical sharps 		Leftover/waste hazardous medications listed on the pharmacy hazardous drug list and marked as hazardous on the label		 PHI: Individually identifiable health information, including demographic data, medical history, insurance, test results, medical record numbers, medications, etc. HSD: Data with legal or regulatory restrictions on access, including personal information that can lead to identity theft; includes PHI (See University Policy IRM-003) Agency Records: Information documenting a transaction or activity by or with a representative of UVA Health or other agency (See Medical Center Policy 0266.) Any documents generated at UVA Health. Destruction of official records requires approval. 		General trash or garbage without PHI and that does not meet criteria for special disposal
Examples	 Potentially infectious waste Saturated dressings Blood products (albumin, etc.) and blood admin tubing Cultures, stocks Protected health information that cannot be disposed of in a confidential console Personal protective equipment (PPE) (gowns, gloves, masks) visibly soiled with BBF 	 Needles Scalpels Ampules Blades, razors Staples Trocars Other sharp medical instruments Broken contaminated glass 	 Hazardous meds that have been fully administered: Vials Ampules Syringes and attached needles IV bags and tubing 	 Hazardous meds not fully administered: Vials Ampules Syringes and attached needles IV bags and tubing Bulk hazardous drugs with partial doses 	 Admission or discharge papers Insurance papers Medical records folders Epic print-outs All paper documents generated at UVA Health, including copies of documents 	 Patient label backing sheets (plasticized) with leftover labels Patient ID bands Patient-labeled IV bag Patient-labeled containers, such as empty urine cups, medication bottles, etc. DVDs, computer discs, and thumb drives containing patient information 	 Packaging, paper towels and food waste PPE: gowns, gloves, and masks used for isolation patients, hazardous med administration, and routine care unless visibly soiled with BBF. If PPE is visibly soiled with BBF, dispose in red bag container Personal hygiene products, such as diapers and sanitary products (presence of trace hazardous meds does not affect disposal) Non-saturated gowns, pads and exam table paper Non-controlled, non-hazardous, non-sharp medication waste Empty containers, tubing, and IV spikes
Additional Information	 Liquid waste should be disposed of in toilet or hopper or solidified and placed in red bag container (blood) or regular trash (liquid stool or urine). Liquid waste should not be disposed of in handwashing sinks. 		 Dispose of personal protective equipment (PPE) (gowns, gloves, masks) used in hazardous med admnistration in general trash beige bins. Trace hazardous meds does not affect disposal of diapers/ sanitary products; wrap and dispose of in general trash. 		 PHI items that are not paper-recyclable go in the red bag container. Console contents are recycled as paper; non-paper items cannot go in them. *Contact Records Management Office at 4-5595 before disposing of documents meeting the definitions in MC-0266. Contact the Compliance and Privacy Office at 4-2938 for questions about PHI and HSD. 		Items not listed on this chart that require special disposal include hazardous chemicals and radioactive wastes. Contact EHS at 982.4911 with questions.

