


# Waste Management Non-Clinical FY22

## 1.1 Waste Management I

LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK



**Waste Management  
Non-Clinical**



888-402-LVHN LVHN.org



## 1.2 Introduction


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### Waste Management Non-Clinical Course Information


LVHN non-clinical colleagues must ensure that municipal waste, hazardous waste and recycled materials are disposed of and/or recycled in a manner that is compliant with the requirements of the following regulatory agencies:

- PA Department of Health
- PA Department of Environmental Protection
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- The Joint Commission
- US Environmental Protection Agency
- US Occupational Safety and Health Administration

*You must score an 80% or higher on the quiz to complete this course.*



**If you have questions, your site specific contact link is shown on the next page.**  
For any technical problems, please contact the Technology Support Center at 610-402-8303.



November 1, 2021

## 1.3 Contents

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### Contents



- Municipal Waste
- Recycling and Reprocessing
- How to Get More Involved
- Site Specific Contacts

## 1.4 Municipal Waste

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### Municipal Waste

**What is it:** At LVHN we are continuously making efforts to reduce the amount of waste that we are placing into the landfills. Our recycling efforts and waste reduction efforts are all focused on environmentally sound practice.

However, there are still some items that

- Cannot be recycled, or
- Do not fall under the definition of Regulated Medical Waste.

These items are referred to as **non-regulated waste** which is also known as municipal trash, clear bag waste or municipal waste.



## 1.5 Recycling and Reprocessing

L E H I G H V A L L E Y H E A L T H N E T W O R K

### Recycling and Reprocessing

**What is it:**

**Recycling** is the processing of waste for reuse or the processing of used or waste material so that it can be used again, instead of being wasted. Most commingled recycle bins will be green and paper recycle bins will be blue or gray.

**Reprocessing** is the collection of single use items for re-sterilization and reuse through a certified vendor.

*Properly sorting items for recycling and reprocessing saves the network thousands of dollars a year in waste bills!*



Reach out to your Site Specific Contact for any questions.



## 1.6 Regular Waste Items Placed Into a Clear Bag

L E H I G H V A L L E Y H E A L T H N E T W O R K

### Regular Waste Items Placed Into a Clear Bag

When handling municipal waste:

- Always wear appropriate PPE
- Tie bag goose-neck style to prevent leaking
- Hold the bag away from your body



## 1.7 Recyclable Items

### Recyclable Items\*

\*At most LVHN locations, you can recycle:

- Cardboard
- Bottles, cans, glass
- Plastics 1-7
- Blue wrap
- Light bulbs
- Batteries
- Scrap metal
- Electronic waste
- Construction material



Reach out to your Site Specific Contact for any questions.

## 1.8 Paper Recycling Information

### Paper Recycling Information\*

\*At most LVHN locations, you can recycle ALL paper:

- ALL paper, including Protected Health Information (PHI), should be placed in a secure paper collection bin
- All paper gets shredded and recycled
- Paperboard, such as empty medication boxes, can go into the paper recycling



PHI on a patient label attached to plastic, such as a medication baggie or IV bag, **CANNOT** go into the paper recycling.

**Always use a marker or pen to cross out the patient name** before throwing the item away in the clear bag trash.

Reach out to your Site Specific Contact for any questions.



## 1.9 Regular Waste Items Placed Into a Clear Bag

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### Regular Waste Items Placed Into a Clear Bag

Some examples of regular waste items that are placed into a clear bag are:

Gloves and other personal protective equipment that is <b>NOT</b> visibly contaminated with blood or body fluids	<b>Non-bloody tubing</b>	Diapers not contaminated with blood	Foam cups, Paper cups, Food items, Plastic utensils
	Tissues, napkins, paper towels	Package/wrapping materials	



## 1.10 Reprocessing Items



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### Reprocessing Items\*

\*At most LVHN locations, you can collect the below for reprocessing:

- All single use invasive instruments, **EXCEPT** syringes, needles, needle counters, and neurosurgical devices (all of those should go into the sharps container)
- Blood pressure cuffs
- Compression sleeves
- Disposable pulse oximeter sensors
- Pressure infuser bags
- Stethoscopes
- Disposable fall alarm mats

Reach out to your Site Specific Contact for any questions.



## 1.11 Site Specific Contacts

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### Site Specific Contacts

For site specific information or questions...

LVH-17th Street Cedar Crest Health Centers Muhlenberg Tilghman	Katherine Velekei	<a href="mailto:Katherine.Velekei@lvhn.org">Katherine.Velekei@lvhn.org</a>
LVH-Coordinated Health	Steve Couch	<a href="mailto:Steve.Couch@lvhn.org">Steve.Couch@lvhn.org</a>
LVH-Hazleton	Zozett Brandy	<a href="mailto:Zozett.Bandy@lvhn.org">Zozett.Bandy@lvhn.org</a>
LVH-Pocono	Alexander Vasquez	<a href="mailto:Alexander.Vasquez@lvhn.org">Alexander.Vasquez@lvhn.org</a>
LVH-Schuylkill	Terry Wagner	<a href="mailto:Terry.Wagner@lvhn.org">Terry.Wagner@lvhn.org</a>

## 1.12 Deans of Green

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### Deans of Green

**What is it:** The Deans of Green is LVHN's network-wide sustainability interest group. It is a voluntary group that is interested in the environment and lessening the health network's environmental footprint, making LVHN a better community partner and steward.

**What do you do:** The Deans of Green are the department of sustainability's eyes and ears around each site. We ask the Deans to pass along the quarterly newsletters to their area and all are welcome to our quarterly meetings (held at Cedar Crest campus, but available via remote call-in). Every colleague, whether a Dean of Green or not, is welcome to share their ideas on improving campus sustainability with the group to help lessen the network's environmental burden.

**How do you join:** Contact Katherine Velekei, [Katherine.Velekei@lvhn.org](mailto:Katherine.Velekei@lvhn.org) to become a Dean of Green for your area.

More than one Dean per area is welcome!