



Recycling FAQs at Johns Hopkins Hospital

Interested in Recycling?

Johns Hopkins Hospital has a variety of programs!

Can't seem to find what you're looking for? Let us know at sustainable@jhmi.edu and we'll help you out!

Want More? Join the Green Team, become [Green Office Certified](#), or like us on [Facebook](#) today!

Paper?

To make recycling simple- please place ALL paper in the secure consoles. This includes confidential paper AND non-confidential paper such as copy paper, file folder, magazines, sticky notes, newspapers, etc.

Single-Stream Recycling?

Yes, we do have single-stream recycling. You should find centrally located green recycling bins to collect glass, aluminum, and plastic. Remember- please put your paper in the Shred-it bins!

Writing Utensils?

Collect pens, markers, highlighters, mechanical pencils, and all caps in your office. When you've got a bunch ready for recycling, please contact sustainable@jhmi.edu for a pick-up!

Batteries?

We provide pick-up service for battery recycling to make it easy for you. Please send an email to sustainable@jhmi.edu, and we will come and retrieve your batteries. The Department of Health, Safety and Environment does still require that the following types of batteries are disposed of as chemical waste: NiMH, NiCd, lithium, mercury, and lead acid. These can be dropped off at any of the rotating hazardous chemical waste collection sites around campus.

e-Waste?

We accept computers, monitors, keyboards, cords, mice, copiers, fax machines, and printers. We will accept pretty much anything with a cord or batteries, and we will take the batteries and cords themselves. Please email furniture@jhmi.edu and a pick-up will be scheduled.

Eyeglasses?

Yes, Old eyeglasses of all prescriptions and types can be donated to the Lions Club Recycle for Sight Program. Cases and reading glasses are also welcome. Collection bins are at the following locations: Wilmer Main Lobby, Wilmer Optical Shop in JHOC, Library, Kennedy Krieger Lobby, Weinberg OPS, Carnegie 173 and Meyer 144 office.

Cardboard?

Please flatten your cardboard boxes and place it behind your green recycling bin. You can also take it to the trash room closest to you and put flattened cardboard in the gray tipster, labeled recycling, trash, and cardboard.

Unwanted furniture?

Please email furniture@jhmi.edu to get rid of unwanted furniture. You can also visit the website at www.furniture.jhmi.edu and submit a request for a salvage pick-up. Please submit a request for all furniture, whether it can be reused or not. We will make a determination if the items can be reused within JHH, donated, or taken apart and recycled. There is a charge of \$40/hour for furniture pick-ups. Please note that furniture management cannot pick up the following items.

- Medical Equipment and Beds – 5-8300
- Refrigerators - 5-8300 (specimen refrigerators) or 5-8300 (standard refrigerators)
- Fixtures attached to walls or floor - 5-8300
- Anything over 500lbs

Shop on the website for lightly-used furniture for your department! We donate beds, canes, walkers, crutches, medical equipment and furniture, etc. as long as the items are not infectious and are still usable to Global Links, a medical relief and development organization based in Pittsburgh, PA, collects medical equipment from the US healthcare system to be distributed to hospitals and clinics that serve the poorest segments of the population in developing countries, primarily in Central and South America. If there are any items in your area that can be donated instead of going to the landfill, please email furniture@jhmi.edu so we can pick up the items.

Hazardous Chemical Waste?

Chemical waste is collected at several locations around campus on a weekly or semi-weekly basis for proper disposal. All types of chemicals are accepted except biohazardous or radioactive waste, and no sharps. For more details and a list of collection times/locations visit the Department of Health, Safety and Environment website at <http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/hse> (under “Environmental Safety”) or call the office directly at 410-955-5918.

What is regulated red bag waste?

Regulated medical waste is 1) human blood and body fluids, 2) sharps, 3) pathological waste and 4) microbiological laboratory waste that are potentially infectious. The only items that should be placed in red bags are blood and body fluid-soiled articles that are released in a liquid or semiliquid state if compressed; are caked with dried blood and are capable of releasing the blood during handling of the items; and contaminated items that would release blood in a liquid state when compressed, such as soaked surgical sponges. Sharps are object that are capable of cutting or penetrating skin or a packaging material, and they should be disposed in sharp containers.

Why are green bags and clear bags mixed in the same dumpster?

Although the bags are mixed in the collection dumpster, they are segregated at the dock- that’s why it’s key to ensure recycle bins are lined with green bags and regular trash is collected in clear bags. The only type of trash that needs to be segregated is red bag trash, as it’s considered infectious and needs to stay separate from other types of waste.

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