

## SUBTITLE M

**TITLE 35: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
SUBTITLE M: BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS  
CHAPTER I: POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD  
SUBCHAPTER b: POTENTIALLY INFECTIOUS MEDICAL WASTES**

**PART 1421  
ACTIVITY STANDARDS**

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1421.ILLUSTRATION A International Biohazard Symbol

**AUTHORITY:** Implementing Section 56.2 and authorized by Section 27 of the Environmental Protection Act [415 ILCS 5/56.2 and 27].

**SOURCE:** Adopted in R91-20, at 17 Ill. Reg. 10392, effective June 21, 1993; amended in R18-29 at 43 Ill. Reg. 10061, effective August 30, 2019.

**SUBPART A: GENERAL PROVISIONS****Section 1421.101 Compliance Dates (Repealed)**

(Source: Repealed at 43 Ill. Reg. 10061, effective August 30, 2019)

**SUBPART B: SEGREGATION****Section 1421.110 Scope and Applicability**

This Subpart applies to persons who generate or transport PIMW, and to owners or operators of PIMW storage sites, transfer stations, and treatment facilities.

(Source: Amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 10061, effective August 30, 2019)

**Section 1421.111 Standards and Criteria**

- a) Generators must segregate PIMW as follows:
  - 1) Sharps;
  - 2) Oversized PIMW; and
  - 3) All other.
- b) PIMW mixed with other waste is regulated under this Subtitle as PIMW and the mixture is not exempt from any other regulations.
- c) This Section does not prohibit placing previously segregated and properly packaged (compliant with Section 1421.Subpart C) sharps with other waste if the mixture is managed in compliance with subsection (b).

(Source: Amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 10061, effective August 30, 2019)

**SUBPART C: PACKAGING****Section 1421.120 Scope and Applicability**

This Subpart applies to persons who package PIMW for off-site transportation.

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**Section 1421.121 Standards and Criteria**

- a) PIMW, except for oversized PIMW, must be placed in a container, or a combination of containers. The container must be:
  - 1) Rigid;
  - 2) Leak-resistant;
  - 3) Impervious to moisture;
  - 4) Of a strength sufficient to prevent tearing or bursting under normal conditions of use and handling; and
  - 5) Sealed to prevent leakage during transport.
- b) Sharps, unless rendered unrecognizable by treatment, must be packaged in a container or a combination of containers that is puncture-resistant and complies with subsection (a).
- c) Oversized PIMW must be covered or packaged in a manner that minimizes contact with transport workers and the public. Do not package sharps with oversized PIMW in the same container.
- d) If the outside of a container is contaminated by PIMW, the container must be placed inside another container, or the container must be cleaned and disinfected in compliance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code 1420.107. In either case, the container or combination of containers must comply with subsection (a) or (b).
- e) Once a reusable container has been cleaned and disinfected in compliance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code 1420.107, it can be used for only waste. If a reusable container is not or cannot be cleaned and disinfected in compliance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code 1420.107, it must be regulated as PIMW under this Subtitle.
- f) Residues from cleaning a PIMW container, or discharges from PIMW packages, are regulated under this Subtitle, except when discharged directly into a sanitary or combined sewer in compliance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code Subtitle C.

BOARD NOTE: Interested persons should note that units of local government can regulate discharges to sewer systems.

(Source: Amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 10061, effective August 30, 2019)

**SUBPART D: LABELING AND MARKING****Section 1421.130 Scope and Applicability**

This Subpart applies to persons who package PIMW for off-site transportation or who accept packages of PIMW from off-site.

**Section 1421.131 Standards and Criteria**

- a) The exterior of the outer package must be marked as follows before shipment:
  - 1) The generator must:
    - A) Mark on two opposite sides of the outer package in lettering that is readable at a minimum distance of five feet:
      - i) The International Biohazard Symbol, as shown in Illustration A, and the word "Biohazard"; and
      - ii) The word "Sharps", if the package contains sharps.
    - B) Mark with indelible ink in lettering that is legible on a water-resistant label or tag securely attached to or marked on the outer package:
      - i) The generator's name;
      - ii) The generator's address; and
      - iii) The generator's phone number (a 24-hour phone number, if available).
  - 2) The transporter must mark with indelible ink in lettering that is legible on a water-resistant label or tag securely attached to or marked on the outer package:
    - A) The transporter's name;
    - B) The transporter's permit number;
    - C) The transporter's address;

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- D) The transporter's phone number (a 24-hour phone number, if available); and
  - E) For each PIMW package, the shipment date when PIMW initially left the generator's site; or for each shipment, a unique identification number that directly corresponds to the initial date of shipment.
- b) Except for subsection (c), inner packages must be marked as described in subsection (a)(1)(A)(i).
- c) If a sharps container is packaged within an outer container, the inner sharps container must be marked with indelible ink in lettering that is legible as follows:
- 1) The International Biohazard Symbol, as shown in Illustration A, and the word "Biohazard"; and
  - 2) The word "Sharps".
- d) Containers that are not the inner or outer containers are exempt from subsection (a). Packages may be placed in a transparent container if all required markings are legible through the transparent container. A non-rigid transparent container cannot be used as an outer container.
- e) For oversized PIMW, the following requirements must be met before shipment:
- 1) The generator must:
    - A) Mark on one side of the outer package in lettering that is readable at a minimum distance of five feet the International Biohazard Symbol, as shown in Illustration A, and the word "Biohazard".
    - B) Mark with indelible ink in lettering that is legible on a water-resistant label or tag securely attached to or marked on the outer package:
      - i) The generator's name;
      - ii) The generator's address; and
      - iii) The generator's phone number (a 24-hour phone number, if available).

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- 2) The transporter must mark with indelible ink in lettering that is legible on a water-resistant label or tag securely attached to or marked on the outer package:
  - A) The transporter's name;
  - B) The transporter's permit number;
  - C) The transporter's address;
  - D) The transporter's phone number (a 24-hour phone number, if available); and
  - E) For each PIMW package, the shipment date when PIMW initially left the generator's site; or for each shipment, a unique identification number which directly corresponds to the initial date of shipment.
  
- f) When PIMW is transported by more than one transporter, each transporter must mark with indelible ink in lettering that is legible on a water-resistant label or tag securely attached to or marked on the outer package the information listed in subsection (a)(2). The label, tag, or mark must not obscure any previous information on the package.

(Source: Amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 10061, effective August 30, 2019)

**SUBPART E: TRANSPORTATION****Section 1421.140 Scope and Applicability**

This Subpart applies to persons who transport PIMW and are required to have a PIMW hauling permit by 35 Ill. Adm. Code 1420.105.

(Source: Amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 10061, effective August 30, 2019)

**Section 1421.141 Standards and Criteria**

- a) PIMW must be transported under conditions that:
  - 1) Minimize the effects of putrescence; and
  - 2) Prevent a breeding place or food source for vectors.
- b) Packages of PIMW must be transported:
  - 1) Only in enclosed compartments of vehicles that are secured against public access when unattended. This does not apply to oversized PIMW, which must be handled in a manner that minimizes contact with transport workers and the public; and
  - 2) In a manner that:
    - A) Prevents compaction of packages; and
    - B) Does not subject them to stress that compromises the integrity of the container.
- c) Vehicles and associated storage compartments, doors, piping, and valving must be:
  - 1) Cleaned of visible PIMW contamination after each use; and
  - 2) In good repair when transporting PIMW.
- d) This Subtitle regulates residues from the cleaning of vehicles contaminated by PIMW, except when discharged directly into a sanitary or combined sewer in compliance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code Subtitle C.

BOARD NOTE: Interested persons should note that units of local government can regulate discharges to sewer systems.

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- e) Vehicles transporting PIMW must display information in compliance with the PIMW hauling permit.
- f) Emergency Response Plan
  - 1) The transporter must develop and keep an emergency response plan in the vehicle.
  - 2) This plan must identify the names and telephone numbers of State and local authorities who must be contacted during an emergency or discharge of PIMW.
  - 3) If there is an emergency or discharge of PIMW, the transporter must take immediate action in compliance with the emergency response plan to protect the health and safety of the public and the environment. In addition, each vehicle transporting PIMW must carry all equipment necessary to provide a response.
- g) Vehicles transporting PIMW must not be used to haul non-waste materials, except for equipment and supplies intended for waste management, including scales, bar coding equipment, printers, stampers, manifests, logs, dollies, load locks, conveyers, material handling equipment, plastic containers, corrugated boxes, plastic bags, tape, sharps containers, drums, labels, signs, stickers, spill kits, new PIMW containers, or PIMW containers that have been cleaned and disinfected in compliance with 35 Ill. Adm. Code 1420.107.
- h) PIMW must not be in transport for more than 10 calendar days.
- i) This Subpart does not apply to the U.S. Postal Service.
- j) *Each transporter of PIMW required to have a permit under Section 56.1(f) of the Act must file a report annually with the Agency specifying the quantities and disposition of PIMW transported during the previous calendar year. These reports must be on forms prescribed and provided by the Agency. (Section 56.3 of the Act)*

(Source: Amended at 43 Ill. Reg. 10061, effective August 30, 2019)



**Section 1421.ILLUSTRATION A International Biohazard Symbol**

