

# Disposal of Urine/Saliva Specimens and On-Site Testing Devices

## Overview:

After the collection and testing procedures, there may be a remainder of urine specimen left in the collection container. It is important to dispose of this specimen properly and according to your local regulations. Note that various states have different regulations for disposal of bodily fluids and it is imperative that you know how to properly dispose of these specimens.

1. All states and counties have regulations concerning the disposal of bodily fluids and testing devices. It is recommended that you check with your state and county department of health and the landfill located in your county for specific regulations.
2. The Federal Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, number 1910. 1030 states that only body fluids that are visibly contaminated with blood are considered potentially infective. Therefore, urine and saliva that do not contain visible blood are not considered potentially infectious. The standard may be accessed on-line at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).
3. If the specimen contains visible blood, then the specimen is biohazardous and must be handled in the manner specified in the standard.
4. If the specimen is not biohazardous and the device was not used to test a biohazardous substance, the specimen and device most likely can be discarded in the regular trash (after emptying the urine into a sink or toilet). It is strongly recommended that you check with your local regulatory agencies because regulations vary by region.

## Labeling & Shipping Information:

You can send an instant on-site collection device (presumptive positives only), or you can send specimens collected using an appropriate urine collection container. Please follow the easy steps on the document entitled ***“Urine Specimen Test Requisitions”*** to send your specimens to the lab.

