



# The Laundry Line News



March 2014

## PLACE ISOLATION LINEN IN REGULAR HAMPER BAG

Although soiled linen may be contaminated with organisms, the risk of transmission is negligible according to CDC. If common sense practices are followed in the handling of soiled linen the chance of transmission is almost non-existent. At Midwest Laundry Inc., Universal and Standard Precautions are utilized. This means that we treat all soiled linen as potentially hazardous.

Because Midwest Laundry follows strict Universal and Standard Precautions it is not necessary to place isolation linen or linen with blood or body fluids in a red bio-hazard bag. Place all linen in your regular linen hamper bag.

### On the units:

Soiled linen and laundry should be placed into a laundry hamper bag in the patients room (not a red bio-hazard bag) and contained in a manner that prevents the bag from opening during transport.

### At Midwest Laundry Inc:

The application of Universal and Standard Precautions means handling all patient linen as if it is contaminated and using the appropriate protective personal equipment (PPE).

The red bio-hazard bags are for disposable medical "infectious" waste, these bags are discarded following regulatory guidelines by your facility.

This means that all linen items placed in red bags are thrown away.

Please help us to decrease the linen cost by placing all linen items, (no matter how soiled), into the regular linen hamper bags. Never place linen items into the red bags.

If there are any questions refer to your facility's epidemiology department.

**DO NOT** PLACE ISOLATION OR HEAVILY SOILED LINEN IN A RED BIOHAZARD BAG

### DO

PLACE ALL SOILED LINEN IN A YELLOW OR WHITE LAUNDRY BAG





# USE LINEN WISELY

Since every linen user has a responsibility to protect the monetary assets of the hospital or nursing home, employees must learn to use linen wisely. This means making a conscious effort to use linen items in the correct manner.

### Do:

- Do adhere to the hospital's linen policies.
- Do use unacceptable linen bags when you find linen that is stained or torn.
- Do adhere to standards and guideline of OSHA, CDC and other regulatory agencies.
- Do take into the patient's room only the linen that is needed.
- Do place all soiled linen in the regular hamper bag.

### Do Not:

- Do Not hoard linen in unauthorized areas.
- Do Not take scrub wear or hospital provided linen home.
- Do Not write on linen items (scrubs).
- Do Not place linen in red bio-hazard bags or into the trash.



## Midwest Laundry and Linen Services

- Linen Rental Service or full service.
- Pick up and delivery service to meet your needs.
- Accredited by HLAC, Healthcare Laundry Accreditation Council.
- We provide all material handling for bulk delivery or cart exchange delivery to your facility.
- Linen management programs to include usage tracking and inventory maintenance.
- Customized reporting system.
- Ongoing evaluations and quality assurance programs.



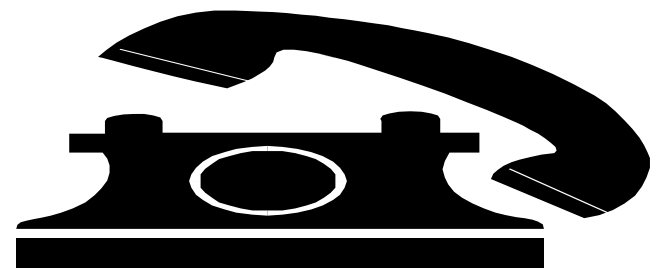
- Full compliance with JCAHO and all regulatory agencies.
- Effective stain and rag out policy.
- Effective bed make-up program.
- Quarterly Linen team meetings with customers.

## Contact Information

**Anita Martin:** Plant Manager 513-563-5560

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**CALL FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION OR A PLANT TOUR.**

**Midwest Laundry**

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FOR INFORMATION  
ABOUT TAKING A  
TOUR OF MIDWEST  
LAUNDRY  
CALL 585-585-9471