

How to Manage Solid Waste Generated in the Home While Caring for a Person with COVID-19

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Most people with COVID-19 will stay at home to recover from their illness. Waste generated during their care may include used tissues, disposable wipes, cleaning and disinfecting waste, used gloves and face masks, and other disposable materials. Patient waste should be handled as follows.

- Place a plastic trash bag near the person with COVID-19.
- Discard all patient waste in a dedicated plastic trash bag immediately after use.
- Securely seal the plastic bag and place in the household trash bin.
- Replace the trash bag frequently.
- Caregivers should thoroughly wash their hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water after handling any patient waste.

Household trash containing COVID-19 patient waste that is handled in this manner can be safely collected by sanitation workers who are following their routine safety procedures.