

GUIDELINES FOR DISPOSAL OF CHEMICAL WASTE

Excess Chemicals and Chemical Wastes

- **Toxic and Flammable Chemicals** - - These cannot go down the drain. Call Environmental Health and Safety (EHSO) at x-2723 for collection.
- **Corrosive Chemicals (Acids & Bases)** - - When neutralized so that the pH is > 6 and < 10 , these can go down the drain provided toxics are not present (e.g., heavy metals). If you do not wish to neutralize, call EHSO at x2723 for collection.
- **Excess Chemicals** - - Call EHSO at x2723 for collection. Closed containers of excess chemicals that might have value (partial or full original containers of reagents that might be used by your UCHC colleagues) with their original labels will be picked up without the need for additional labels.
- **Waste Chemicals** - - Call EHSO at x2723 for collection. (If the label is missing and you are sure of the contents, re-label the container with product name(s), concentration(s) and manufacturer (if known)). You must label the container "Hazardous Waste" and keep the container closed.

For mixed waste solvents (e.g., mixed solvents, chloroform and phenol mixtures, DNA sequencing waste, etc.), you must:

1. First, properly label a suitable waste collection container. Mark out any original wording that would be misleading. The words "Hazardous Waste" must be printed on the waste container (preprinted "Hazardous Waste" stickers are available at no charge from EHSO at x2723 and
2. Second, list the full chemical name of each waste added to the container (e.g., molecular formula such as Hg, CHCl_3 , etc. are not acceptable, write out mercury, chloroform, etc.) and show ingredient volumes or concentrations. Such collection containers must be kept capped, except when wastes are actually being poured.

Rusted cans of chemicals should be disposed as soon as noticed through EHSO at x2723.

- Departments are not charged for chemical waste collection and disposal.
- Radioactive Material Waste must be handled in accordance with Radiation Safety Office guidance (x2250) and not mixed with other chemical wastes.

EXAMPLES OF REGULATORY CORRECT CHEMICAL WASTE COLLECTION CONTAINER



Cap kept on except when additions are being made.

"Hazardous Waste" printed on container prior to its use as a waste collection container.

Contents listed with chemical name spelled out and volume or concentrations tracked.

Make sure you know that all chemicals added to the container are compatible.

Be accurate. Others handling your waste base their handling procedures on the label information you provide.

QUESTIONS: Call the Office of Research Safety at x2723