



STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE Laboratory Chemical Waste Guidelines



Hazard Awareness

How well do you know waste & chemical properties?



Corrosive (Acids and Bases): Materials that corrode skin or metal. Examples: Hydrochloric Acid, Sodium Hydroxide



Flammable (and Combustible): Materials that readily ignite and burn vigorously. Examples: Alcohols, Acetone, Ethers, Acetic Acid



Oxidizer (and Organic Peroxides): Materials that release oxygen readily to stimulate the combustion of organic matter. Examples: Concentrated Hydrogen Peroxide, Potassium Permanganate, Bleach



Air or Water Reactive (and Pyrophorics): Materials that react violently with air or water. Examples: Zinc Dust, Magnesium Metal



Toxic (Poisons, Carcinogens, Mutagens): Materials that contain a known carcinogen or known mutagen; exhibit oral toxicity; contain toxic metals or pesticides, or are toxic to aquatic species. Examples: Mercury, Ethyl Acetate, Formaldehyde, Ethidium Bromide

Chemical wastes that are not clearly in one of the first four categories, and are not listed on the Stanford non-hazardous waste list nonhazardouswaste.stanford.edu should be considered toxic.

Hazardous Materials are Never to be disposed of in the sink!



Note: This poster contains important regulatory information about hazardous materials and hazardous wastes that every laboratory worker is required to know. You may be asked to demonstrate your knowledge of these subjects by City, County or State inspectors.

Handling Laboratory Wastes

A laboratory chemical becomes a waste when you decide that you no longer intend to use or re-use it.

Laboratory wastes may be accumulated for up to a maximum of **9 months** in the lab.



- Submit a pickup request as soon as the container is full or 8 months after the accumulation start date, whichever ever comes first
- Submit pick up request at:

wastepickup.stanford.edu



Waste containers must meet the following criteria:

- Good condition with no leaks or cracks,
- Kept closed when not actively adding waste to the container
- Properly segregated from incompatible materials,
- Always stored within secondary containment, and
- Affixed with a fully completed hazardous waste label.



All chemicals not specifically listed on the Stanford University "Non-Hazardous Waste List" must be managed as a hazardous waste.

- See: nonhazardouswaste.stanford.edu for a list of non-hazardous wastes.
- If your material is on the non-hazardous waste list, follow the instructions for alternative disposal.

Spill Response



Call **286** for cleanup assistance of spills if:

- you are not knowledgeable of the material and its hazards, or
 - the spill is not contained in a hood or on a lab bench, or
 - the spill may result in an environmental impact by entering a sink or floor drain, or by contaminating soil, or by producing hazardous vapor emissions, or
 - you can not complete the cleanup with your materials on hand.
- Larger spills reported by calling **286** or 725-9999 are documented by EHS



You do not need to call for spill assistance if:

- you are knowledgeable of the hazards of the material and
 - the chemical spill is less than 30 ml and
 - takes less than 15 minutes to clean up.
- Clean it up using available spill response materials and personal protective equipment.
- All contaminated spill control cleanup materials and personal protective equipment must be managed as hazardous waste.
- You must document self-clean-up

Accident Response

Emergency Response for Accidents Involving Hazardous Materials

If the accident is a fire, explosion, or health-threatening:



- call **286** for emergency assistance,
- follow your department emergency

In case of eye or skin contact with hazardous chemicals,



- immediately flush the affected area with water for 15 minutes
- notify your supervisor,
- have a co-worker call **286** for emergency assistance and,
- complete a SU-17 and submit the form to Risk Management.
- Contact OH&S for all injuries at 650-723-0448

Contact SOM Health & Safety Programs Office (650) 723-0110
somsafety.stanford.edu