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CHEMICAL WASTE DISPOSAL

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDELINES

GENERAL

Waste chemicals are picked up from University buildings on a bi-weekly schedule. The schedule of pick-ups is every second Friday, starting at 8:30 A.M. and proceeding until completion. In the event of a University holiday falling upon a pick-up day, the pick-up will be rescheduled for the preceding Wednesday. Notice of rescheduling will be posted at the pick-up point.

Waste should be taken to the collection points on the morning of the scheduled pickup. If your building does not have a standard collection point, pick-up arrangements can be made by contacting the Department of Environmental Health & Safety (624-8526 or 624-8952).

LABELING CHEMICALS FOR DISPOSAL

- All chemicals must be identified and labeled.
- An orange Waste Chemicals label should be filled out completely & placed on the bottle. Labels should include chemical name, quantity, name of person preparing chemical for disposal, department, telephone extension, and date.
- Common chemical names should be used on labels. **(No formulas or abbreviations)**
- List all known chemical constituents for each container **(Do not** label as “solvent waste”, halogenated/non halogenated waste, etc.) Estimate concentrations.
- Labels can be obtained from the Environmental Health & Safety Office (x 4-9505).

PREPARATION OF CHEMICALS FOR DISPOSAL

- Waste chemicals destined for disposal should be segregated into compatible groups and packaged in a sturdy cardboard box.
- Consult the Material Safety Data Sheet for the materials to determine compatible groupings.
- Five-gallon solvent cans in good condition do not need to be over packed.
- Drums greater than five-gallon capacity will not be picked up on regularly scheduled rounds. Arrangements for pick-up of drums can be made by contacting the Environmental Health and Safety Office (x 4-8526 or x 4-8952).
- Packaging should be done to minimize the possibility of breakage or leakage during handling (all bottles should be tightly capped to prevent leakage).
- Containers should be placed upright in the box to prevent spilling of the contents.

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- Bottles should not come in contact with each other, and the space between bottles should be filled with a cushioning material to prevent bottle movement during handling.
- Bottles of liquid chemicals should be packed with absorbent materials to contain the material in the event of breakage.
- **Do not** place any chemical waste in Biological Waste containers (bags, boxes, etc.).
- Total weight of the box should not exceed 35 pounds.