

University of Pittsburgh Safety Manual	EH&S Guideline Number: 04-020	
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GUIDELINES FOR FLAMMABLE LIQUID DISPOSAL

Waste from chemicals possessing a flashpoint less than 60 ° C (140 ° F) are classified as hazardous wastes. According to federal law (40 CFR 261.20) and state and local regulations, all hazardous wastes must be captured, collected, and disposed through the University's Chemical Waste Disposal Program. **No flammable materials should be poured down the drain.** The University of Pittsburgh is committed to protecting the environment through compliance with these laws and the "Zero Discharge" initiative.

Disposal Guidelines

- Disposal of materials into the sanitary sewer is regulated by federal, state and local law.
- Chemical wastes possessing a flashpoint of less than 60 ° C (140 ° F) are classified as ignitable hazardous waste. *Please contact EH&S (412-624-9505) to make a hazardous waste determination of any materials in question.*
- All hazardous wastes must be captured, collected, and disposed through the University's Chemical Waste Disposal Program managed by EH&S.
- Flammable liquids that must be collected include but are not limited to ethanol, methanol, acetonitrile, and aqueous solutions of these solvents. For example, EH&S has determined that Western blot transfer buffer containing 10% or 20% methanol is a hazardous waste due to the solution's flammability; and it must be collected and disposed through the Chemical Waste Disposal Program.
- Collect flammable liquid waste solutions in the original container, or in a suitable glass, plastic, or metal container.
- Label the container with a completed orange WASTE CHEMICALS label, and identify the chemical constituents. General identifiers such as "Waste", "Solvent Waste", "Halogenated Waste", and "Aqueous Waste" are not acceptable.
- All waste containers must be kept closed except when actively adding or removing waste.
- When ready for disposal, containers of waste flammable liquids should be segregated/package appropriately and placed in a designated accumulation area for disposal, or EH&S may be contacted at 412-624-9505 to schedule a pickup.

Contact Environmental Health & Safety with any questions regarding chemical waste disposal at 412-624-9505.