
The Waste-Paper

“Waste is a terrible thing to mind”

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Leaving So Soon?

Planning to graduate or leave Princeton for greener pastures (not that we know of any)? Before you go, be sure that all of the chemicals that you have been using are either disposed of or formally assigned to another person in your lab. Do not leave your samples and chemical reagents behind for someone else to manage – that is how unknown chemicals and excessive chemical storage often begins.

Before you leave...

- Go through your lab with your PI or other senior lab member. Look at every chemical container and be sure each is labeled in a manner that allows anyone in the lab to identify the contents.
- Determine chemicals likely needed for future projects and those that may be sent for disposal.
- Dispose of unneeded/surplus chemicals.
- If you are unable to arrange for disposal prior to leaving campus, be sure to make arrangements for someone else to manage disposal at the next chemical waste collection.
- Ensure that someone has taken responsibility for each of the chemicals left behind, including gas cylinders.
- Check and remove samples from refrigerators and freezers for shipping or disposal.

If you are looking to dispose of an entire stock of chemicals, EHS may be able to arrange for help from our waste contractor. Contact EHS at 609-258-5294 if you have any questions or concern.



Joan's Pet Peeves

Yes, folks, you've awoken Joan's Pet Peeves again. For those of you who don't know, Joan is a Laboratory Safety Specialist in the Office of Environmental

Health and Safety. Joan's Pet Peeves is a column developed to report when people disobey the waste and other health and safety regulations. For the most part, people have been diligent in the management of their hazardous waste and therefore there has not been a "Peeve" vented in quite some time.

However, numerous instances have been noted recently where waste containers have been left opened or funnel lids left up. There are other instances where wastes are not labeled properly and in some cases, not labeled at all.

Hazardous waste regulations stipulate that all containers must be sealed to prevent evaporation and/or spills. Keep your containers closed! It is an easy pitfall to leave funnels in open containers instead of capping them; this is a no-no. If you will not be adding more waste within seconds, close your container. Lidded funnels are acceptable provided they secure tightly to the container and you snap the lid closed when not adding waste.

In addition labels must include the words "Hazardous Waste" with the contents listed in English; no chemical formulas. Too often, the hazardous waste label cannot be read. Most times this is caused by solvent spilled or dripped over the edge of the container this can smear or completely remove the text written on the label. This sometimes occurs because labels are usually filled out using a pen or marker and solvents will readily smear them. One solution to this is to fill out the labels using a pencil. Please make sure the label is legible at all times. Replace the label if it becomes difficult to read.

The issues above are by far the most frequently noted infractions. But it's important that you remain vigilant with regard to all aspects of waste and be sure to do the following:

- Be sure that containers do not leak.

<i>EHS HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTACTS</i>	
Main Office	8-5294
Kyle Angjelo (Chemical Waste)	8-2711
Sue Dupre (Radioactive Waste)	8-6252
Jackie Wagner (Biohazardous Waste)	8-1427
Tom Drexel (Waste Paper)	8-6255
EHS Web Page https://ehs.princeton.edu	

- Use secondary containment when storing near sinks and floor drains.
- No more than one quart of an acutely hazardous waste or 55 gallons of other hazardous wastes may be stored in the accumulation area. If this threshold quantity is reached, the worker must transfer the waste to a 90-day storage area. Contact EHS immediately.
- Segregate incompatible wastes.

Our primary focus has always been the physical safety of lab members. However, to give a different perspective we've listed EPA fines that could be assessed if these oversights were noted during an inspection by a regulatory body.

This Month's Waste Disposal Drop Off: Wednesday, April 27, 2016

Lewis Thomas loading dock

- Collection room open from 2:00 - 4:00 PM
- Coordinators: [Michael Fredericks](#) (8-1351) for Molecular Biology

Jadwin Loading Dock Receiving Building

- Coordinators: [Philip Fairall](#) (8-3913) for Chemistry and [Jim Kukon](#) (8-4364) for Physics

E-Quad Room 7 (E-Quad and Bowen)

- Collection room open from 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- Coordinators: [Joe Laskow](#) (8-4739) or [Phil Curry](#) or [Anthony Schulz](#) (8-4563)

Hoyt, 185 Nassau

- Waste is collected upon request
- Contact [Kyle Angjelo](#) for pick-up (8-2711)

Code Reference	Regulatory Citation	Fine	EHS Language
40CFR 262.11	Failure of generator of solid waste to determine if waste is hazardous.	\$5,000	Label hazardous waste as "Hazardous Waste" and do not put it down the drain or in the trash.
40 CFR 262.34 (a)(1)	Failure of generator to place waste in containers, in tanks, on drip pads, or in containment buildings in accordance with 40 CFR 262.34 (a)(1).	\$4500	Ensure that containers are in good condition and that containers are in secondary containment near sinks and floor drains.
40 CFR 262.34 (a)(2)	Failure of generator to clearly mark container with date when accumulation period begins or to make mark visible for inspection.	\$3000	Mark your waste with the date that it is brought down to the waste room.
40 CFR 262.34 (c)(1)	Failure of generator to ensure that the quantity of waste in each area is no more than 55 gallons of hazardous waste or no more than one quart of acutely hazardous waste or to have area at or near any point of generation where wastes initially accumulate in a process.	\$3000	Make sure that you do not accumulate more than 1 quart of acutely hazardous waste or 55 gallons of any other hazardous waste.
40 CFR 262.34 (c)(1)(ii)	Failure of generator to mark satellite containers with the words "Hazardous Waste" or other words which identify the contents of the container.	\$4500	Label your hazardous waste with the words "Hazardous Waste" and the contents in English.