
The Waste-Paper

“A Waste is a terrible thing to mind”

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Announcing the newest addition to EHS

Please join us in welcoming Caitlin Root, our new Laboratory Safety Specialist, to the EHS office.

Caitlin comes to Princeton from sunny South Carolina and is finishing up the tail end of her master's thesis from Clemson University. After earning her B.S. in Health Physics from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, she decided to further her education for a master's in Environmental Engineering with a concentration in Environmental Health Physics from Clemson. For several summers before she started graduate school, she worked as a health physics intern for Yale University's EHS. While at Clemson, her research focus was on radiation safety culture and laser safety.



Meredith is her energetic three year-old Border Collie mix that she adopted from a shelter. When the weather is nice, she likes to run and hike with Meredith. Soon, Caitlin hopes to enroll her in a program to learn how to herd sheep around, as she frequently herds around other dogs, people, and toys.

Feel free to introduce yourself to Caitlin if you see her around campus! She looks forward to meeting all of the research staff at Princeton and helping to answer safety questions in any way she can. Her favorite part about working at Princeton's EHS so far is how well everyone communicates and how welcoming they have been to her as a new employee.

Keeping Streams Clean: Waste Streams

There are many aspects associated with being a responsible steward for safety and the environment. This is particularly so with regard to chemical waste management.

One way to minimize wasteful energy consumption and unnecessary cost in hazardous waste disposal is by minimizing cross-contamination or comingling of waste streams. Keeping waste streams 'clean' not only reduces disposal costs, but may also lead to energy savings. Though EHS provides large containers for the bulking of compatible waste material, it is imperative that you only combine wastes that are similar in nature, i.e., materials that do not cause an otherwise routine waste stream to take on additional properties or unique hazards.

Whenever possible, solids and liquids should not be combined; e.g., syringe needles with organic solvent. Likewise, immiscible liquids should not be combined in the same container. Avoid needlessly adding toxic materials (e.g., heavy metals) to flammable solvent waste. Highly toxic liquids such as bromine present unique hazards and should not be combined with common flammable solvent waste streams, such as hexane.

All small quantities of acutely hazardous substances should be collected and stored separately (e.g., cyanic compounds). Any waste categorized as [P-listed waste](#) by the US EPA should not be combined with any other waste. Take care to minimize such wastes when-ever possible.

Non-regulated, non-contaminated laboratory debris (e.g., chemical reagent delivery packaging) must never be comingled with hazardous chemical waste. Regulated contaminated debris collection containers should only be used to collect gloves, paper towels, and debris that are known or suspected to be contaminated.

The principle of keeping waste streams clean not only applies to hazardous waste, but also to universal waste and general recycling.



Rechargeable batteries collected as universal waste at various campus locations are sorted by type and collected in specifically labeled containers.

You have the power to reduce costs, save energy, and contribute to the preservation of the environment by minimizing volume and keeping your waste streams clean.

**July's Waste Disposal Drop Off:
Wednesday, July 27, 2016**

Lewis Thomas loading dock

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

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

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

Jadwin Hall Waste Room

- 9:00-10:00 AM Coordinator: [Phil Fairall](#) (8-3913)

Hoyt Laboratory /185 Nassau

- Waste collection is on an as-needed basis.
Contact [Kyle Angjelo](#) (8-2711) to make arrangements

WHY WE DO IT AND WHO WE ANSWER TO

As EHS strives to inform and educate the research and support staff of the appropriate chemical waste management methods, you may be asking “why would they ask me to do it that way?” The answer to your question is somewhat complex. The fact is, the University is responsible for compliance with multiple state and federal requirements and must answer to these regulatory authorities.

EHS takes the time to analyze all applicable regulations and requirements and provides to the University community a condensed list of actions that each generator must follow to maintain overall compliance with these often confusing, lengthy regulatory documents. EHS publishes the condensed health and safety information extracted from the regulatory documents and posts the information, organized by discipline, on the EHS website (<http://ehs.princeton.edu>).

There are various requirements that must be followed pertaining to management of hazardous chemical and regulated medical waste, transportation of waste and chemical reagents, storage of chemicals and gas cylinders, radioisotope use and radiation, research pertaining to clinical studies and almost every other aspect of research and tasks performed within University facilities.

Below are listed three examples of regulatory authorities that have influence on our University operations.

OSHA (Occupational Safety & Health Administration)

Agency within the US Department of Labor created to assure safe and healthful working conditions by setting and enforcing regulatory standards. OSHA covers topics ranging from industrial ventilation, hazard communication, noise control, and beyond.

NJDEP (NJ Department of Environmental Protection)

State agency created to create, audit and enforce laws pertaining to natural resource preservation, hazardous chemical and regulated medical waste management, and environmental sampling and remediation programs.

PHMSA/IATA (Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration - DOT/ International Air Transport Association)

An agency of US Department of Transportation which regulates domestic transportation of hazardous materials and pipeline transportation. PHMSA's goal is for safe, reliable, and environmentally sound transportation of goods. IATA is a trade association that regulates international transportation of hazardous materials.

EHS HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTACTS

Main Office	8-5294
Kyle Angjelo (Chemical Waste)	8-2711
Sue Dupre (Radioactive Waste)	8-6252
Tom Drexel (Waste-Paper)	8-6255
Jacqueline Wagner (Biohazardous Waste)	8-1427
EHS Web Page – http://ehs.princeton.edu	