
The Waste-Paper

The Hazardous Waste Disposal Monthly Update

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Joan's Pet Peeves

I had no choice but to write a "Joan's Pet Peeves" article using "Joan" as my *nom de plume*. Yes, we have a problem as of late... with lab members bringing down

large quantities of chemical waste outside of the regularly scheduled collection times. That's not a good combination, late *and* voluminous. For those of you who don't know me, my name is Steve Elwood. I'm the University Hazardous Waste Manager responsible for hazardous waste disposal from University facilities. As "Joan's Pet Peeves" is a column developed to report when people disobey the waste procedures established for the waste pickup, I thought it an appropriate venue for my rant.

Despite regularly scheduled drop-off times for each waste location on campus, over the past three to four months, our waste contractors have had several people approach them with chemical wastes long after the established collection time. It makes the waste pick-up less efficient and more costly if waste is brought down after the majority of the other materials are identified, segregated, and assigned for packing.

Please notify EHS about any planned laboratory chemical clean-outs prior to the monthly waste collection. Many times arrangements must be made in advance to provide extra contractor resources and packaging materials. In some instances, EHS may also want to arrange for a special pick-up earlier in the month to accommodate the larger volume of chemicals from the lab cleanout.

As a reminder, for routine monthly chemical wastes, here are the approved waste drop-off times:

- **Chemistry, Psychology and 185 Nassau Street** - Frick loading dock between 1:00 and 2:00 pm the Wednesday before the pickup.
- **SEAS and PRISM** - Room 7 of the loading dock between 2:00 and 3:00 pm the Wednesday before the pickup.
- **Geosciences, EEB, LSI and Molecular Biology:** LTL loading dock between 12:00 and 4:30 pm the Wednesday before the pickup or by 9:00 am the day of the pickup
- **Physics:** Contact Joe Horvath (8-4364) a few days before the pickup. Wastes should not be brought down to Joe before the Wednesday prior to the pickup.

If your lab is planning on performing some "spring" cleaning and you expect to generate greater than normal quantities of waste, be sure to contact me as early in the process as possible at 8-6271 or selwood@princeton.edu.

Schedule Note

As usual, **there will be no chemical waste pickup in November**. After this month's pickup, the next scheduled chemical waste pickup will take place **December 9, 2004**.

Due to the timing of Thanksgiving and the December holidays, we have traditionally combined the November and December pickups in to a single pickup the second Thursday of December.

If you anticipate problems related to this schedule, please contact Steve Elwood at selwood@princeton.edu or 258-6271.



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