
The Waste-Paper

The Hazardous Waste Disposal Monthly Update

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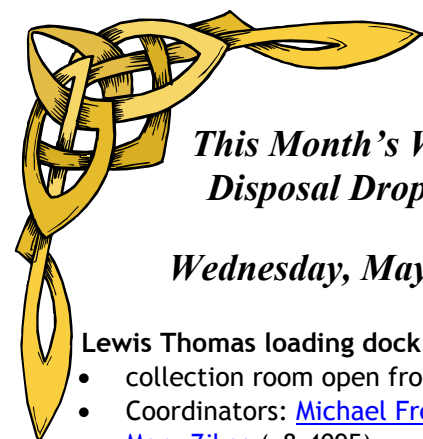
Regular Pickup during Reunions!

...we celebrate in our own way...

Reminder: Before you leave...

- Go through your lab with your PI or another lab worker. Look at every chemical container and be sure they are labeled correctly.
- Determine which chemicals are needed for future projects and which are not.
- Dispose of unneeded chemicals. If there are materials for disposal after May 24th, make arrangements for someone else to get rid of them at the next pickup.

If you have a whole lab's worth of chemicals to dispose of, we may be able to arrange for help from our waste contractor. Contact EHS at 8-5294 if you have any questions.



This Month's Waste Disposal Drop-Off:

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

Lewis Thomas loading dock

- collection room open from 1:00 - 4:30 PM
- Coordinators: [Michael Fredericks](#) (8-1351) or [Mary Zikos](#) (x8-4095)

Jadwin Hall room 124 (Physics only)

- Do not drop off waste before Wednesday
- Coordinator: [Joe Horvath](#) (x8-4364)

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

- collection room open from 2:00 - 3:00 PM
- Coordinators: [Joe Laskow](#) (8-4739) and [Joe Palmer](#)

Frick loading dock (Chemistry, Psychology, Visual Arts)

- collection room open from 1:00 - 2:00 PM
- Coordinator: [Kevin Wilkes](#) (x8-3920)

Expecting Summer Help?

Summer is fast approaching and many lab groups will be taking on summer research help – usually high school or college students and teachers. Before enticing the next generation of Nobel Laureates with all that Princeton has to offer, consider the following:

High School Students

Whether paid or unpaid, NJ child labor laws restrict the type of work that individuals under the age of 18 can perform. Children 15 and under are prohibited from conducting any type of work in most research laboratories. For those who are 16 or 17, the Principal Investigator must complete a proposal and submit it to EHS for approval. The forms and a description of the process are available on the web at

<http://web.princeton.edu/sites/ehs/hsstudents/hsstudents.htm> .

Others

Anyone working in a research laboratory (paid or unpaid) **must** attend Laboratory Safety Training offered by EHS. Similar training from other organizations is not a substitute for this requirement. Open Laboratory Safety Training sessions are offered at least once per month. The schedule is on the EHS web site at

<http://web.princeton.edu/sites/ehs/Training/calendar.htm>.

Please contact Helen Norman at 258-2648 or hnorman@princeton.edu to enroll or to schedule additional sessions.

EHS HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTACTS

Main Office	8-5294
Steve Elwood (Chemical & Radioactive Waste)	8-6271
Marcia Leach (Waste-Paper)	8-5296
Don Robasser (Biohazardous Waste)	8-6256
EHS Web Page	http://www.princeton.edu/ehs

Medical Waste Disposal

Many laboratories, even those that do not work with biological materials, produce laboratory waste that falls under the definition of Regulated Medical Waste. Proper medical waste management begins with identifying what is medical waste and proceeds with proper segregation of the waste. The following is a summary of how to accomplish these goals in your laboratory.

The *NJ Department of Environmental Protection* defines regulated medical waste as: any solid waste generated in the diagnosis, treatment, immunization, or research of human beings or animals in research pertaining thereto, or in the production or testing of biologicals, in the following categories: cultures and stocks (of infectious agents and associated pathological wastes, human blood and blood products, sharps (used or unused), animal waste (contaminated animal carcasses and animal bedding exposed to agents infectious in humans).



IDENTIFYING MEDICAL WASTES

Biohazard Wastes: cultures and stocks of infectious agents and associated biologicals, culture dishes and devices used to transfer, inoculate and mix cultures, blood, body fluids, contaminated animal carcasses, body parts and bedding known to have been exposed to infectious agents during research.

Sharp Waste: Hypodermic needles, scalpels, razor blades, syringes (with or without attached needle), pasteur pipettes (glass and plastic), suture needles, etc., **even if non-contaminated** are considered medical waste and must be handled appropriately.

COLLECTING MEDICAL WASTES

All medical waste must be segregated at the point of generation and placed into proper containers. Medical waste segregation is critical in reducing the risk of disease transmission and reducing the cost for disposal. As a general rule you should not:

- Combine medical waste with hazardous wastes or radioactive wastes.
- Combine any solid waste (paper, food, paper towels, gloves, product packaging, etc.) with medical waste.
- Add anything other than sharps to the sharps container.
- Add sharps to the medical waste box.
- Overfill any medical waste container.

- Pour any medical waste down the drain unless it has been treated (contact EHS for specific instructions).

PROCEDURES

- Place biohazard waste in red biohazard bags labeled “biohazard” or “infectious” with the international biohazard symbol.
- Line the medical waste box (provided by Building Services) with red plastic bags labeled *biohazard*.
- Place biohazard bags in Biohazard Waste Boxes
- Mark each container of medical waste with a water-resistant tag to include the generator’s name (department) and address (Princeton University). If the medical waste box contains inner containers (i.e., sharps container) then each inner container must be marked with generator’s name and address.
- Keep secondary containers closed unless waste is being added to the inner bag.
- Keep secondary containers clean and in good repair.
- Fill secondary containers only 2/3 filled or less than 50 pounds.
- When ready for disposal, seal the medical waste box and affix a label identifying the laboratory.

Sharps

- Collect in puncture-resistant sharps containers, available from the stockrooms or safety product catalogs.
- Keep sharps containers upright and place near work area.
- Do not overfill sharps container (fill only up 2/3).
- Close before transporting and disposal.
- Place in a medical waste box, following the procedures listed above.

THINGS TO REMEMBER...

- Autoclaved medical waste must be handled as medical waste and requires proper packaging and labeling as would untreated medical waste.
- Any spilled medical waste must be cleaned up immediately and all cleanup materials must be disposed of as medical waste.
- All containers lined with red biohazard bags must be decontaminated when visibly stained with blood, body fluids or infectious agents (dried, caked, soiled).
- All medical waste for disposal must be locked in designated areas with restricted access to authorized personnel only. These storage areas must be maintained in a non-putrescent state and kept free of rodents and insects.

For more information, see the Biological and Medical Waste Disposal page on the EHS website at <http://web.princeton.edu/sites/ehs/biosafety/biowaste.htm> or contact Don Robasser at 258-6256.