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# The Waste-Paper

*The Hazardous Waste Disposal Monthly Update*

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## *Just Arriving?*

Welcome to Princeton! If you are new to the University or are just staying for the spring, here are a few items we hope will be helpful to you. Environmental Health & Safety manages the hazardous waste program on campus. Chemical wastes are collected from Frick, E-Quad and Lewis Thomas Labs on the last Thursday of each month. However, waste should be brought down to the designated collection point the day before according to your [department schedule](#).

Until that time, waste is managed in the lab or work area. Here's a summary of the requirements:

- Waste containers must be labeled as soon as waste collection begins. EHS provides labels, which you should complete and affix to the container right away, or else you must write the words *Hazardous Waste* and the waste contents on the container.



**Remember:** White carboys are for **SOLVENTS ONLY**. Use **blue** carboys for all other compatible liquid hazardous wastes (corrosive, toxic, etc.)

- Waste containers must always be kept closed except during filling. Funnels should not be left in waste containers in anticipation of future fillings.
- Store away from floor drains or sinks or else use secondary containment to contain any spillage.
- Disposal of most chemical waste down the sink is prohibited. Evaporation of solvents is also a prohibited means of disposal.

If you would like more information about waste disposal, please visit the [Waste section](#) of the [EHS web site](#). Don't forget – everyone working in a lab **MUST** attend Laboratory Safety Training provided by EHS. See the [Lab Safety](#) section of the EHS web site for more information.

## *Leaving so soon...?*

Are you forgetting something? How about that bottle of epichlorohydrin you left under the lab bench? Or, that distillation apparatus in the hood with the strange, pasty yellow liquid in the round-bottom flask?

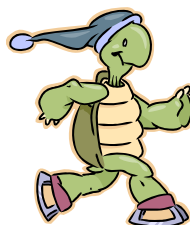
The point is that you're not completely free until you've addressed the disposition of all of your leftover chemicals, whether you entrust them to another lab worker or you dispose of them as hazardous waste. Don't just leave a chemical behind, thinking that someone else knows what it is, how old it is, what it's used for, etc.

Call EHS at 8-5294 if you have any questions.

## **Before you go...**

- Go through your lab with your PI or another lab worker. Look at every chemical container and be sure that each is labeled with the names of the chemical constituents. **Pay particular attention to chemicals in fume hoods, refrigerators and freezers.**
- Determine which chemicals are no longer needed and which will be used for future projects.
- Dispose of all unneeded chemicals. If the materials are for disposal after the January 26<sup>th</sup> pickup, make arrangements for someone else to bring them to the designated collection point for the next pickup.

If you have a whole lab's worth of chemicals to dispose, call EHS at 8-5294 to discuss the possibility of a special pickup for a time other than the regular monthly waste pickup.



**Next Waste Pickup:  
Thursday,  
January 26, 2006**

*Bring wastes to designated  
collection point on  
Wednesday, January 25*

## *D.E.P. Inspection...*

As many of you are aware, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP) conducted an unannounced inspection of hazardous waste activities for part of our campus last month. The areas covered by the inspection included Molecular Biology, Lewis-Sigler Institute, Geosciences, EEB and Physics, as well as the Energy Plant and Grounds and Buildings Maintenance.

No notices of violations or fines were issued. The inspector was pleased with the program we have in place and was impressed with the level of compliance he witnessed.

These particular areas, known as the Moffett Site, were last inspected in the spring of 1999. E-Quad and Bowen were inspected in 2004. The Frick Site, which includes Chemistry, Psychology, and Visual Arts, was last inspected in the summer of 1999. Thus, although there has been no official notice, it is reasonable to assume that the Frick site will be inspected in the next few months.

All of us in EHS extend our heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to all who were involved in this inspection, particularly Michael Fredericks, who accompanied the inspector with EHS representatives. Your efforts toward environmental compliance are greatly appreciated. Please keep up the outstanding work.

## *Calling All Cylinders*

Do you have lecture bottles or other non-returnable gas cylinders sitting around your lab? If so, now is the time to dispose of them. In an effort to rid laboratories of old, unwanted or unusable compressed gas cylinders, EHS has declared a cylinder disposal amnesty.

Gas cylinder disposal is costly, especially when dealing with particularly hazardous gases (e.g., poison inhalation hazard, pyrophoric, etc.) such as those used in semi-conductor labs and with excimer lasers.

There is a long standing EHS policy of charging disposal costs to the generating lab if we determine cylinders have been mismanaged (i.e., lab brings 14 cylinders from the Eisenhower administration to the monthly pick-up). During this amnesty, EHS will pick up the entire cost of disposal of these cylinders. **Don't miss this opportunity to avoid costly disposal charges. Cylinders received after 2/28/2006 will not be eligible for amnesty.** Please contact Steve Elwood at [selwood@princeton.edu](mailto:selwood@princeton.edu) or 8-6271 to take advantage of this program.

**Note:** Many gases are now available in reusable cylinders, including lecture bottles. Remember, whenever possible, gases should be ordered in returnable cylinders. There is more information on the EHS web site at <http://web.princeton.edu/sites/ehs/chemwaste/lecturebottles.html>

## *Training Requirements*

Just a reminder to those who are new to the University or who might be veterans, but have not received safety training:

All faculty, staff, students, and visiting researchers who work in laboratories are required to attend Laboratory Safety training. Laboratory workers must attend a general session given by EHS and receive additional, more specific training from their department and/or supervisor.

Regardless of previous training and experience, anyone planning to use radioactive materials, must complete initial radiation safety training before using radioactive materials. Initial radiation safety training is divided into two segments: A set of web-based Radiation Basics modules with an accompanying test (<http://web.princeton.edu/sites/ehs/osradtraining/coverpage.htm>) and a Radioactive Materials Safety Class

Participants must successfully pass the Radiation Basics Test before attending the Radioactive Materials Safety Class.

Check the EHS online training calendar <http://web.princeton.edu/sites/ehs/Training/calendar.htm> for dates and locations of upcoming training sessions.

<i><b>EHS HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTACTS</b></i>	
Main Office	8-5294
Steve Elwood (Chemical & Radioactive Waste)	8-6271
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EHS Web Page	<a href="http://www.princeton.edu/ehs">http://www.princeton.edu/ehs</a>