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# The Waste-Paper

*The Hazardous Waste Disposal Monthly Update*

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## *Revised Procedure for Adsorbent Disposal*

EHS recently revised the procedure for disposal of silica gel, molecular sieves and other adsorbents. Effective immediately, [all silica gel, molecular sieves, and other adsorbents that have been in contact with hazardous materials must be collected and disposed of as hazardous waste.](#)

Only unused adsorbents may be disposed of in the regular trash. Do not place the loose powder directly in lab trash. The waste must first be placed within a sealed container clearly marked as "Non-Hazardous".

The updated procedure for collecting and disposing of adsorbents as hazardous waste can be found at <http://web.princeton.edu/sites/ehs/chemwaste/silicagel.html>

As with any hazardous waste, proper containment and container closure rules apply. All containers must be labeled as "hazardous waste" with the constituents listed by proper name. If you generate large quantities, EHS can supply 5 or 16 gallon plastic collection containers at no charge. You may also reuse the large original silica gel containers. When using these or any other large containers, please adhere to the following procedure:

- Label the container with the yellow hazardous waste sticker as soon as you begin using it.
- Use only the liner provided with the container, if any. Using Red-colored or Biohazard bags is NOT an acceptable practice and will necessitate re-packaging.
- Fill containers to a maximum of 3/4 of their capacity.
- Bring only filled containers to the hazardous waste pickup site unless no further generation of this waste stream is anticipated. Full containers may weigh in excess of 100 pounds. Use a dolly or hand truck (available through the receiving room of your building) for transport.
- Contact EHS at 258-5294 for replacement containers.

Contact EHS at 258-5294 with any questions or issues regarding this policy.

## *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 the Chemistry, Psychology and Visual Arts Departments encompassing the Frick and Hoyt Chemistry Labs, Green Hall and 185 Nassau.

No notices of violations or fines were issued. The inspector was satisfied with the program we have in place and impressed with the level of compliance he witnessed. It is worth noting, however, although the three recent DEP inspections of the hazardous waste program have gone very well, it is crucial that we continue our vigilance to remain in good standing with our local regulators.

All of us in EHS extend our heartfelt congratulations and gratitude to those who were involved in the most recent inspection.



*Please bring waste down  
to your Collection site on  
Wednesday, March 28th  
Waste Pickup will be  
Thursday,  
March 29, 2007.*

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### Joan's Pet Peeves: Secondary Containment

During recent lab inspections, our own Joan Hutzly noted a few instances where labs were not using secondary containment or the

containment was substantially undersized. For those of you who need a reminder (you know who you are) ...

Hazardous liquids stored near drains (floor, sink, cup sink) should be in [secondary containment](#). The reason for this requirement is to keep the material from spreading and possibly entering the drain in the event of a leak or container failure. Therefore, the tub, tray, bucket or whatever is used must be of sufficient size to hold the volume of the original container. A flat tray under a 4 liter container is not adequate.

Any chemically compatible container of sufficient size will do. We recommend plastic polypropylene tubs for up to 4 liter containers inside hoods or near sinks. EHS provides the type pictured below free of charge. Contact [Joan Hutzly](#) 8-6251.



- For larger containers such as carboys, especially those stored on the floor, consider purchasing "party buckets" made of polypropylene.



For more information about storing hazardous waste see our website at

<http://web.princeton.edu/sites/ehs/chemwaste/storage.htm> or call EHS at one of the numbers listed below.

<i><b>EHS HAZARDOUS WASTE CONTACTS</b></i>	
Main Office	8-5294
Steve Elwood (Chemical & Radioactive Waste)	8-6271
Tonya Gruchacz (Waste-Paper)	8-6255
Don Robasser (Biohazardous Waste)	8-6256
EHS Web Page <a href="http://www.princeton.edu/ehs">http://www.princeton.edu/ehs</a>	