

Laboratory Hazardous Waste Quick Reference Guide

Emergency Phone Number: **911**
Environment Health and Safety Office (EHS Office): **8-1081**
<http://www2.kumc.edu/safety/>

Waste Determination:

Laboratory material becomes a waste when it has been determined to be no longer useful
It **MUST** be determined if the waste is hazardous waste or nonhazardous waste
Laboratory wastes must be handled according to specific government regulations
Each laboratory should develop a list of ALL wastes generated with estimated pounds of wastes generated annually

A Waste is a Hazardous Waste:

If known to be harmful or potentially harmful to human health or the environment
If declared hazardous by the waste generator
If identified by the EPA as a Listed Waste. There are four EPA Lists of hazardous wastes (F, K, P & U Lists)
If ignitable (Flashpoint < 140°F), corrosive (pH <2.5 or >12.5), reactive (reacts with water or explodes easily), or toxic

Waste Containers:

Must be good condition and **MUST** be kept closed. Open **ONLY** when adding waste material
Use only **ONE** waste container for each waste generated. **NEVER** mix different types of wastes in a single container

Labeling of Waste Containers:

Containers must be labeled identifying contents
All "Hazardous Waste" containers must be labeled with the "KUMC Hazardous Waste" label
When a Hazardous Waste container is full, the "Date Filled" must be written on the label

KUMC Hazardous
Waste Label



KUMC Hazardous Waste Label for small containers



Storage of Hazardous Waste (Laboratory Satellite Accumulation Area):

ONE, and only one, container per wastestream may be used to accumulate each type of Hazardous Waste generated in a laboratory, provided that:

- The hazardous waste containers are kept securely **CLOSED**
- When a "Hazardous Waste" container is full, the container is removed from the lab by the EHS Office within 3 days
- The area is monitored on a regular basis for leaks or spills
- Containers of incompatible wastes are segregated to prevent accidental reactions
- Hazardous waste containers are **NOT** stored in laboratory hoods

Disposal of Hazardous and Nonhazardous Waste:

To dispose, complete a "Chemical Pick-up Form" on the EHS Office web-page to request a pick-up
Hazardous Waste must be removed from the lab within 3 days of the date entered as "Date Filled"

Minimizing Hazardous Waste:

Keep the storage and working amount of chemicals in the lab to a **MINIMUM**
Do not order more chemicals than needed
Maintain an inventory of all chemicals in the laboratory
Discard chemicals that are no longer needed. See Disposal of Hazardous Waste and Nonhazardous Waste.
Chemicals with shelf-life limitations or expiration dates should be prominently identified and disposed of before the expiration date is reached

Sanitary Sewer Disposal:

Water-based solutions with a pH between 5.5 and 10.5 are allowed to be disposed of down the drain
Acid and caustic solutions outside of this range cannot be disposed of down the drain
Other chemicals that cannot be disposed of down the drain are solids, flammables, corrosives, reactives, toxics, heavy metals, chlorinated solvents, chemicals with pungent odors or oils or any solutions that contain these chemicals

Empty Chemical Container Disposal:

Containers that have held acutely hazardous chemicals must be triple-rinsed using a solvent capable of removing the chemical.
Contact EHS Office to determine if chemical is "acutely hazardous"
All empty containers should be marked as "EMPTY" with the name of the previous contents marked out
When in doubt, contact the EHS Office

Training:

Personnel handling chemicals need to take annual Hazardous Waste training