



HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT



STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS PROHIBIT IMPROPER STORAGE AND DISPOSAL

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

- Any person discovering an **imminent or actual emergency**, which is not readily controllable with equipment on hand, **MUST CONTACT THE UNIVERSITY POLICE AT 2222**
- **NOTIFY OTHERS** in the area about the spill and post a warning sign
- **IF SPILLS OR LEAKS** of hazardous materials may **AFFECT OTHERS OUTSIDE THE IMMEDIATE AREA**:
 1. **EVACUATE** the area
 2. **Pull the FIRE ALARM BOX** to notify everyone
 3. Begin a larger evacuation
- **TELL THE UNIVERSITY POLICE**:
 1. Your name, phone number, & department
 2. The location of the spill
 3. Time of the spill
 4. Identity of what spilled
 5. Quantity of spilled material
 6. Extent of injuries, if any
- **DO NOT CLEAN UP A SPILL IF**:
 1. **YOU do not know** what the material is
 2. **YOU lack the knowledge and training** to clean it safely
 3. **YOU feel it is unsafe to clean up** the spill
 4. **YOU think the spill is larger than one liter** or is spread over a large area
 5. **YOU feel symptoms of exposure**: Skin or Eye Irritation; Difficulty Breathing; Dizziness or Nausea
 6. **YOU have any doubt** whether the spill can be safely and effectively cleaned up by staff, **call the University Police at 2222 IMMEDIATELY**

What Is RCRA?

- The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA, pronounced "reck-rah")
- This legislation was passed by the United States Congress in 1976
- RCRA requires the management and disposal of hazardous waste in accordance with United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regulations from "cradle to grave"

Which Agencies Oversee RCRA?

- USEPA administrates RCRA federally
- The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) administrates RCRA for the USEPA in New York State

When Is A Hazardous Material Considered a Hazardous Waste?

When the material becomes:

- No longer usable for its original intent
- Off-specification
- Abandoned (i.e., corroded containers, labels falling off, labels yellow with age, etc.)

Who Determines What Is A Hazardous Waste?

At the University at Buffalo, Environment, Health & Safety (EHS) will pick up the waste and make a hazardous waste determination

What Are The Characteristics Of A Hazardous Waste?

- A waste that is any of the following: Ignitable, Corrosive, Reactive, or Toxic
- Most laboratory chemicals fit this definition

Eight Golden Rules Of

Hazardous Waste Accumulation:

1. Put the "Hazardous Waste" label on the container as soon as hazardous waste is first added
2. Keep the waste container closed, except when adding waste
3. Store all containers in secondary containment
4. Segregate containers, keeping incompatible wastes, radioactive wastes, and regulated medical wastes separate
5. Inspect waste accumulation areas weekly
6. Full containers **MUST BE REMOVED** from accumulation areas within 3 DAYS
7. For chemical hazardous waste or radioactive waste pickup, complete chemical or radioactive waste Pickup Request Form and fax to EHS. Forms are available at (<http://www.ehs.buffalo.edu>)
8. For the regulated medical waste pickup contractor, call UB Procurement Services at 645-5000 x1182.

Hazardous Waste Labeling

Requirements

- Write out full chemical names on label
- DO NOT use chemical formulas, symbols, or abbreviations
- DO NOT omit cation or anion names for aqueous solutions
- DO NOT use experiment numbers for identification

Training Requirements

Training is required if you:

- Determine what is a hazardous waste
- Add hazardous waste into accumulation containers
- Transport waste from an accumulation point
- Inspect hazardous waste storage areas
- Respond to spills involving hazardous waste