

UVM LAB WASTE DISPOSAL GUIDE



uvm.edu/riskmanagement/safety
safety@uvm.edu



Sink
Disposal



Regular
Trash*
*no liquids



Uncontaminated
Lab Waste/
Glass Box
(trash)



Original or
Primary
Container



Sharps
Box



Biohazard
Box



Complete a
Lab Waste
Tag

UNCONTAMINATED LAB WASTE		https://www.uvm.edu/riskmanagement/uncontaminated-laboratory-waste							
Non Haz	PPE that is NOT contaminated (e.g. UNcontaminated gloves, paper towels) * See Biowaste Section		*						
	Uncontaminated Pipettes/pasteur pipettes used with non-hazardous solutions			*					
	Emptied and uncontaminated syringes only - No needles . Needles must go into sharps container. Note: Never remove needles from the syringe.			*					
	All other SOLID uncontaminated lab-related waste.			*					
CHEMICAL WASTE		https://www.uvm.edu/riskmanagement/laboratory-chemical-waste-management							
Empty Containers from ACUTELY TOXIC chemicals (e.g. Sodium Azide, Cyanides, Osmium Tetroxide, etc.) Do Not Rinse.								*	
Empty Chemical Containers: Rinse. Deface label with a permanent black marker. Place in regular trash. Do Not Recycle.		*							
Old, Expired Hazardous Chemicals: If disposing of 15+ containers, contact Safety staff to help sort, group and tag chemicals. Bottles with identical waste can be submitted using one lab waste tag.									*
Non-Hazardous Powders (e.g. phosphates, citrates, agar, etc.)									*
Non-hazardous liquids: Only chemicals on the list of liquids approved for Sink Disposal can go down drain OR Submit a Sink Disposal Request Form.									
Chemically Contaminated PPE and Spill Debris (e.g. Kimwipes, gloves, etc) Collect in clear ziplock or clear bag only.									*
Broken bottles contaminated with chemicals: put in CLEAR bag inside a sealed cardboard box.									*
DEA Controlled Drugs	Contact safety@uvm.edu or UVM Veterinarian								
Oil and Oily debris: Oil is a regulated waste in Vermont. Containerize oil by type and collect oily debris (e.g. rags, paper towels, etc) in ziplock bag with oil.									*
Sharps contaminated with chemicals (e.g. blades, needles, stirring devices, pipette tips.									*
BIOLOGICAL WASTE		https://www.uvm.edu/riskmanagement/biowaste-management							
Liquid biological waste (no chemicals): Disinfect by adding an appropriate disinfectant (e.g. 10% bleach solution), let sit for 20 minutes , then pour down lab sink drain. Questions: email safety@uvm.edu									
Disposable PPE: disposable lab coats, gloves, booties								*	
Sharps: blades, scalpels, needles, glass slides, glass slide covers, inoculating needle, stirring devices, capillary tubes					(Step 1)			*	
Serological pipettes/Pasteur pipettes: Place in primary puncture-proof package (e.g. the box they came in). Then, place in biohazard box.					(Step 1)			*	
Pipette tips: Collect in small, labeled benchtop container and dump DAILY into Biowaste Box.								*	
Autoclaved waste: Notify UVM Biosafety Officer	Contact safety@uvm.edu								
Invasive or transgenic plants, insects or derived materials (soils).	Contact safety@uvm.edu								
Mixed waste: Waste contaminated with biological material AND chemicals								*	
Animal carcasses/Animal bedding: contaminated w/ biohazardous material, including biotoxins and chemical agents, rDNA, etc	Contact safety@uvm.edu								
Proteases: DNase, RNase, etc								*	
Biotoxins: See: http://www.uvm.edu/safety/lab/biological-toxins								*	
COMPRESSED GAS CYLINDERS		https://www.uvm.edu/riskmanagement/compressed-gases							
Order from current UVM compressed gas vendor. Dedicated driver on campus daily. Vendor is contracted to move/relocate gases in and around UVM labs.	Contact Airgas, Williston: 802-863-1151 After hours emergencies: 1-800-707-8915								
Specialty Gases: If contracted gas vendor does not supply the specialty gas that you need, purchase from gas vendor who will agree to accept your empty gas cylinder for disposal.	Purchase only from gas vendor who will allow you to return the empty cylinder to them. Otherwise, complete a Lab Waste Tag for disposal.								
Lecture Bottles: gases 12-18 inches long and 2-3 inches in diameter	Purchase only from gas vendor who will allow you to return the empty cylinder to them. Otherwise, complete a Lab Waste Tag for disposal.								
RADIOACTIVE WASTE		https://www.uvm.edu/riskmanagement/radioactive-waste-disposal							
Radioactive Waste or Mixed Waste: "Mixed waste" includes items that are both chemically AND radiologically contaminated	Contact Radiation Safety Office: 656-2570 or radsafe@uvm.edu								
UNIVERSAL WASTE / RECYCLABLES									
Lightbulbs: includes ultraviolet lightbulbs (UV), compact fluorescents, LED bulbs, metal halide bulbs. Incandescent bulbs can be disposed in regular trash.	Contact safety@uvm.edu								
Lead Acid Batteries								*	
Assorted Batteries: Lithium, Nicad, Alkaline and Button batteries Collect in brown battery bucket or box. Tag bucket when full as lab waste.								*	
Electronic Waste (E-Waste): Computers, monitors, keyboards, mouse	Submit FAMIS Service Request for Physical Plant / Recycling & Surplus								
Old, Broken or Unneeded Lab Equipment: Must be decontaminated inside and out by lab. See: uvm.edu/safety/lab/dispose-of-surplus-lab-equipment	Submit FAMIS Service Request for Physical Plant / Recycling & Surplus								

Email safety@uvm.edu with any questions!