

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 Purchase only from gas vendor who will allow you to return the empty cylinder to them. Otherwise, complete a Lab Waste Tag for disposal.								
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.									
Lecture Bottles: gases 12-18 inches long and 2-3 inches in diameter									
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!