

Guidelines for Laboratory Hazardous Waste Accumulation:

The following is a summary that, if followed correctly, will help ensure Code of Federal Regulation and California Code of Regulation compliance, and keep you, the generator, in a safer work place environment.

1. Containers must be:

- Compatible with the waste placed inside them. This includes the lid material. For example: no acids in mason jars with metal lids.
- Closed at all times except when adding waste to the container. All containers must have a tight fitting lid, no exceptions. If the waste is reacting to produce gas, place it in the fume hood, vent the lid, turn fume hood on, and contact EH&S.

2. Waste must be:

- Stored separate from other incompatible wastes or hazardous materials. For example: a bottle of waste that has a pH of <3 should not be stored near a bottle of waste that has a pH of >9. Another example: combustible waste must be kept apart from oxidizing waste and materials.
- Labeled with an approved EH&S hazardous waste label. When in doubt call EH&S.

3. Labels *must* be filled in with the following information:

- Description – In the large blank area indicate what is in the waste container. Please include balance information – it is easier to do this when generating the waste rather than trying to remember months later!
 - Start date – the day that the first drop of waste was generated in that container.
 - Fill date – the day that the container became full and was removed from the point of generation.
 - Generator – Location and/or department. This is needed in case we have a question about concentrations or the process that led to the waste.
 - EXP- Indicate the experiment number if available.
 - Physical State –Solid, Liquid or Gas.
 - Hazard Category – Flammable (Combustible), Reactive, Toxic, or Corrosive.
 - The “Other” line is optional, but should include reactivity data if known or an approximate pH if “Corrosive” is indicated if known.
- **Waste descriptions must never include abbreviations.** Chemical names need to be spelled out (even water!). Brand names are acceptable, but should be denoted with “quotation marks.”
 - Labels are available through your department technician or by calling our main office.

4. *Waste may not be accumulated at or near the point of generation longer than six months* as a part of campus policy, and should be placed in an approved 90-day storage area immediately after being removed from the lab. If you notice a bottle of waste outside of these requirements, please contact your department technician or EH&S, and they will advise you where to store the waste for disposal.

For questions or clarification regarding this document or accumulation of waste in your area, please:

- Call the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at 278-7422 (on campus at 8-7422),
- Email us at lisak@csufresno.edu.

For Emergencies contact campus police at 911 from a campus phone, or 278-8400 if using an off campus phone line.