UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA CHARLOTTE | ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

Hazardous Waste Fact Sheet

Hazardous waste may be generated from laboratory operations, facilities operations, construction activities, and a variety of other activities at UNC Charlotte. Typical wastes generated at UNC Charlotte include, but are not limited to: spent solvents, waste laboratory chemicals, and Universal waste (discussed separately in the Universal Waste Handling Fact Sheet due to differing regulatory requirements). In accordance with regulatory requirements, UNC Charlotte maintains a Hazardous Waste Contingency Plan. This Plan is designed to prevent and to minimize hazards to the public or to the environment from fires, explosions, spills or other unplanned releases of hazardous waste. EPA regulations also require generators to comply with emergency preparedness and prevention requirements.

Waste Identification

- **Hazardous waste includes substances that are solids, liquids and gases that EPA defines as toxic, ignitable, corrosive, or reactive with other substances. Consider all waste chemical formulations hazardous unless EHS determines otherwise. Contact EHS for technical assistance.**

Labeling

- **Containers that store HW must be properly and clearly labeled.**
- **Labels must include the following:**
  - **"HAZARDOUS WASTE" wording.**
  - **Full chemical name, not chemical formulas (e.g. "Acetone")**
  - **Building & room number where waste is generated or located.**
  - **Hazard characteristic of the waste (e.g. corrosive, flammable, toxic, reactive).**
  - **Date when the container has become FULL or moved into a central accumulation area. (Do not date any containers prior to them becoming full and ready for final disposal)**

Accumulation and Storage

- **EPA regulations have established a two-tiered waste accumulation and storage system. Central and Satellite accumulation.**
- **Central Accumulation sites are the main accumulation and storage sites of hazardous waste and are subject to strict time limitations. UNC Charlotte is a large quantity generator and as a result, the University is allowed to store hazardous waste on-site for a maximum of 90 days. The UNC Charlotte hazardous waste central accumulation areas are found in: Solvent Storage Bunker room 100, Science Building 015, and Burson 225A.**

Accumulation and Storage (Continued)

- **Satellite Accumulation sites are where hazardous waste is accumulated and stored at the point of generation and under the control of the person generating the waste. Regulations allow a maximum of 55 gallons of hazardous waste, or 1 quart of acutely hazardous waste at each satellite accumulation area. Satellite accumulation containers must be closed at all times, except when waste is being added to the container. Containers should be stored in leak-proof tubs or another type of secondary containment within satellite storage areas. These containers should only be dated when full and ready for disposal via the EHS Office or transport to one of the hazardous waste central accumulation areas.**

Training

- **Persons working with hazardous materials should receive training every 3 years that addresses storage, use, and disposal of hazardous materials, emergency procedures, and other safety topics. PIs should train lab members to handle lab specific hazardous materials and the hazards they present.**
- **Persons working within a central accumulation area or transporting waste into central accumulation areas will receive training annually through EHS.**
- **Personnel must be thoroughly familiar with waste handling and emergency procedures applicable to their job responsibilities.**
- **All records pertaining to employee training must be retained for as long as the employee is employed in a covered job plus an additional three years.**

Emergency Contacts

Dial 911 (campus phone)
704-687-2200 (external phone)