Waste Disposal Procedures
Texas A&M University – Commerce
Fall 2014
Who is responsible for chemical waste disposal in the lab where you work?

If you make the waste, you are responsible for properly identifying and tagging it for disposal!
When is waste collected?

- Typically there will be a waste collection scheduled for January, May/June and perhaps August/September if necessary.
How will we know exactly when it will be collected?

An e-mail will be sent out to all faculty with the deadline for when waste packaging should be completed and where the waste should be taken.
When do these new waste disposal procedures begin?

LAST WEEK
1. Read the back of a waste label.

2. You read the entire back of a waste label.
CONTENTS: List, in words (no abbreviations, symbols, or formulas), all chemicals and inert compounds in the container (including water and mineral solids). Lists may be continued on the back of the tag. Tags for containers of potentially explosive materials such as picric acid, silanes, nitro compounds, and ethers must indicate the percent concentration of these chemicals.

HAZARDS: Check all applicable hazard boxes. For wastes that are contaminated media (e.g., silica gel, solids, or mixtures), check off hazard boxes for the associated hazardous substances.

IGNITABLE: Flashpoint <140 F (e.g., acetone, ethanol)
CORROSIVE: pH $\leq 2$ or pH $\geq 12.5$ (e.g. nitric acid, sodium hydroxide).

REACTIVE: Unstable chemicals; chemicals that, when mixed with water, react violently, form explosive mixtures, or generate toxic gases, vapors or fumes; cyanides or sulfides that can generate toxic gases, vapors or fumes at normal pH (between 2 and 12.5) (e.g., some bleaches and peroxides).
TOXIC: Poisons that are acutely toxic (e.g., pesticides, cyanides, phosgene).

EXPLOSIVE: Are capable of detonation or explosion.

OTHER: Use to describe chemicals, mixtures or substances that are not listed or characteristic hazardous wastes (e.g. ethidium bromide) OR use to not e handling precautions (e.g., water reactive, shock sensitive.)
ACCUMULATION START DATE: Fill in ONLY IF AND WHEN the waste container causes the SAA to exceed its 55-gallon hazardous (or 1 quart of acutely hazardous) waste limit. You probably won’t have to deal with this.

TEXAS WASTE CODE: Don’t worry about this part, the waste hauler will fill in the waste codes.
COMPLIANCE REMINDERS

- If reusing a container for waste, remove or deface (completely mark out) old labels.
- Containers must be in good condition.
- Containers must be compatible with the waste.
- Containers must always be closed except to add or remove waste.
- Each container must be placed in a “Satellite Accumulation Area” near the point where the waste was generated until sent for disposal.
- Each individual container must be tagged or labeled.
If needed, continue "CONTENTS" list from front.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th>PROVIDE FULL CHEMICAL NAME (and CAS # if known)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NO FORMULAS OR ABBREVIATIONS</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Separately list % of each component (including water / solvent) in a solution or mixture (total must equal 100%). Less than 0.5% label as "trace" amount.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>%</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proper Chemical Name</th>
<th>CAS #</th>
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</table>
SO NOW WHAT DO I DO?

- Now that you have read the entire back of a waste label (tag)
- Fill out the waste tag. (Do not take off the bottom part until the bottle is filled)
Waste bottles, etc...

- When you are going to use a waste bottle take the manufacturers label off or mark it COMPLETELY out.

- Tag the bottle by TYING a waste label to the bottle. (Do not take off the bottom part of the label until the bottle is full and all contents are written on the label)

This is not acceptable
Waste bottles, etc...

This is better and worse.
The label is covered with a new clean waste label and notice the secondary containment (good for you).

But... no tag.
Once you put a waste bottle into use?

Once the bottle is tagged and put into use add it to your waste disposal spreadsheet which will be e-mailed to you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHEMICAL WASTE SPREADSHEET</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>CONTENTS</th>
<th>CAS #</th>
<th>% CONTENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WASTE TAG #</td>
<td>PROF.</td>
<td>DEPT</td>
<td>BLDG</td>
<td>ROOM #</td>
<td>PHONE #</td>
<td>ACCUM. START DATE</td>
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READ THE BACK OF THE WASTE LABEL CAREFULLY

When a waste bottle is put into service, it should be free of any manufacturer labels. A waste tag should be created and strung to the bottle. Add the tag number to this spreadsheet and enter the information as/when the bottle is being filled.

CONTENTS: Provide full chemical name (& CAS# if known) No formulas or abbreviations
Separately list % of each component (including water/solvent) in a solution or mixture (total must equal 100%). Less than 0.5% label as "trace" amount.

NOTE: You may add as many lines as necessary within this spreadsheet.

PROF. = MANAGER or SUPERVISOR: This should be your research instructor and the lab coordinator for the teaching labs.

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Where do I take the waste after I tag it?

Each room has a temporary storage area (satellite) where the waste is to be stored until the disposal company arrives.

IT IS NOT INSIDE THE HOOD as you see here, especially with a label that only says “waste” and uncapped with a funnel in it.
Where do I take the waste after I tag it?

- These storage areas may be from secondary containers such as in the organic research lab to areas that have simply been taped off specifically for waste containers to be stored.

It may look ugly and dirty (it really needs to be cleaned up a bit) but it is acceptable for waste containment.
What about after it is full?

Once the waste container is full AND CAPPED, the tag is completed, and all the information is entered into the spread sheet, place the bottle back in the temporary storage area until the disposal company SET Environmental comes to pick them up.
When SET arrives, what do I do?

- You will be apprised of when SET will arrive.
- You should take your waste from your temporary storage area to room 307 unless informed otherwise.

THIS PROCEDURE SHOULD START TODAY
INSPECTIONS WILL BEGIN SOON