

Safety Note #56

LABORATORY ACCUMULATION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE



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Research and Extension Center (REC) or Cooperative Extension (CE) laboratories that generate and accumulate hazardous waste shall maintain compliance with the California Health and Safety Code (HSC), Sections 25200.3.1 b and 25123.3 e and California Code of Regulations (CCR), Sections 66262.34 and 66265.171 through 173.

Project Leaders or other personnel that manage REC or CE laboratories are responsible for complying with the portions of HSC and CCR that address laboratory hazardous waste. If accumulated laboratory hazardous waste is not in compliance with the HSC or CCR and a regulatory agency issues a violation, the Project Leader or laboratory manager will be held responsible for monetary penalties or other mitigation to correct the violation.

Laboratory Accumulation of Hazardous Waste Requirements

- A laboratory may accumulate a maximum of 55 gallons of hazardous waste or one quart of acutely hazardous waste.
- Within three days of accumulating the 55 gallon or one quart limit, the hazardous waste container shall be marked with the date the limit was reached and moved to the 90-day accumulation area.
- Laboratory hazardous wastes may be accumulated for a total of one year, inclusive of the time spent in the laboratory and 90-day accumulation area.
- Realistically, hazardous wastes should accumulate no more than nine months in the laboratory before being transferred to the 90-day accumulation area.
- Hazardous waste shall accumulate in an area as close to practical to the location where the laboratory hazardous waste is generated.
- Laboratory hazardous waste accumulation areas shall be managed or under the control of personnel who have received training commensurate with their responsibilities and authority for managing laboratory hazardous waste.
- Accumulated laboratory hazardous wastes shall be managed to assure incompatible hazardous wastes are not mixed, or are otherwise prevented from coming in contact with each other.
- The amount of accumulated laboratory hazardous waste shall be appropriate for the space limitations and the need to safely manage waste containers.
- Containers holding laboratory hazardous waste shall be in good condition and made of materials compatible with the laboratory hazardous waste to be stored.
- Containers containing laboratory hazardous waste shall remain closed except when adding or removing waste.
- Laboratory hazardous waste containers shall not be opened or handled in a manner which may rupture the container or cause it to leak.
- The initial date that laboratory hazardous waste is placed in a container shall be clearly marked and visible on all containers used for storage.
- Each container used for storage of laboratory hazardous waste shall be marked with the words "Hazardous Waste."
- Each laboratory hazardous waste container shall be marked with the following information:
 1. The composition and physical state of the wastes;
 2. A statement that identifies the particular hazardous properties of the waste; and
 3. Name and address of the generator (i.e., responsible Project Leader).

Additional information about hazardous waste handling requirements is available at <http://danrrec.ucdavis.edu/ehs/guides/index.html> in the REC Policy and Procedures document entitled "Storage and Removal of Regulated Waste."