

HOW TO LABEL CHEMICAL WASTE CONTAINERS

If the chemical waste is **not in its original container or the original label isn't legible**, you will need to place a UW Hazardous Waste Label on the container before pickup by EH&S.

GET LABELS

You can download the [UW Hazardous Waste Label](#) (shown at right) from the EH&S website, or EH&S can mail printed labels to your campus mailbox. *Contact EH&S by phone at 206.616.5835 or e-mail at chmwaste@uw.edu.*

- Do multiple containers have the **same contents**?
Download the [four identical labels template](#).
- Does each container have **different contents**?
Download the [four different labels template](#).

Follow the [instructions on page 2](#) if you are using an older version of the UW Hazardous Waste Label (shown on page 2).

COMPLETE THE LABEL

- List the **full name of each component** and the **percentage** of total volume it occupies.
- Check the boxes to indicate the **primary hazard** (listed on the SDS or original container label).
- Add the generator's **name, department or unit**, and **phone number**.
- Add the **building name** and **room number** where the generator or the waste is located.

Waste containers must be correctly labeled prior to collection by EH&S.

HAZARD EVALUATION

If you are unsure whether your waste is hazardous, refer to the SDS(s) for the chemical(s) and review Chapter 3 of the [UW Laboratory Safety Manual](#).

If you are still unsure, please submit a [Waste Evaluation Request](#) on the EH&S website. EH&S staff will evaluate your waste stream and advise you on proper disposal. A fee may be charged for this service.

UNKNOWN CONTENTS

If you are unable to identify the contents of a container, label the container with the words "**unknown hazardous waste**" and *check all the primary hazards*.

HAZARDOUS WASTE	
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON	
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (206) 685-5835 UoW 1157 (4/05)	
CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND ASSOCIATED HAZARD(S)	%
<input type="checkbox"/> Flammable <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic <input type="checkbox"/> Corrosive <input type="checkbox"/> Reactive	
WASTE GENERATOR INFORMATION	
Department	Labeled by
Building	Phone
	Room

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Please be careful to not obscure any markings on the original container, which may be useful in determining what was originally in the container. Best practice is to place the container in a clear bag and put the UW Hazardous Waste Label on the outside of the bag. Submit an online [Chemical Waste Collection Request](#) and select "HAZ-CAT UNKNOWN CHEMICAL WASTE" in the Chemical Name field.

There is a \$75 dollar fee charged to the generator for each container that requires testing to identify its contents.

WASTE ACCUMULATION RULES

All hazardous chemical waste generators must comply with the Hazardous Waste Accumulation Rules. A complete description of the rules is available in Section 3 of the [UW Laboratory Safety Manual](#).

Use the [Hazardous Waste Checklist](#) to conduct a self-audit to ensure you are compliant with all applicable rules and regulations.

Review the hazardous waste [storage and labeling reminders](#) to help you [avoid common hazardous waste mistakes](#).

WASTE TREATMENT, RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL

The following options may be available to waste generators:

1. **Recycle** chemicals through [MyChem](#).
2. **Treat** chemicals on site and dispose of them in the sewer.
3. Request a [chemical waste collection](#) for **disposal**.

Refer to the [Chemical Treatment and Recycling](#) webpage for chemical treatment options. If treating waste, you must have an approved procedure, document training, and keep an updated [Chemical Treatment Log](#).

Refer to the [Chemical Waste Disposal](#) webpage for information on requesting a one-time chemical waste pickup and setting up a routine (repeating) chemical waste pickup by EH&S.

OLDER HAZARDOUS WASTE LABELS

If you are using an **older version of the UW Hazardous Waste Labels** (shown to the right), follow these instructions:

FOUR LITERS OR SMALLER

You may continue to use old UW Hazardous Waste Labels on chemical waste containers that are four liters or smaller in size.

HAZARDOUS WASTE	
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON	
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (206) 685-5835	
UW 1157 (4/05)	
CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND ASSOCIATED HAZARD(S)	%
Acetone	85.0000
Toluene	15.0000
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrosive <input type="checkbox"/> Reactive <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hazardous <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ignitable <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidizer	
WASTE GENERATOR INFORMATION Labeled by	
Dr. Disposal	
Department	Phone
Chemistry	555-1212
Building	Room
Chemistry	BB 022



LARGER THAN FOUR LITERS

Chemical waste containers larger than four liters with an old UW Hazardous Waste Label **must have a second label** applied to comply with the new [Hazardous Waste Generator Improvements Rule](#) in effect as of April 2019.

The second label must have the words “HAZARDOUS WASTE” and list the **primary hazard**.

The second label **must be visible at 25 feet** to satisfy the legal requirement.

Download and print labels from the EH&S website for four primary hazards: [FLAMMABLE](#), [CORROSIVE](#), [TOXIC](#) and [REACTIVE](#) (which includes oxidizers).

Example of an old UW Hazardous Waste Label

HAZARDOUS WASTE	
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY (206) 685-5835 UoW 1157 (4/06)	
CHEMICAL COMPOSITION AND ASSOCIATED HAZARD(S)	%
Acetone	85.0000
Toluene	15.0000
<input type="checkbox"/> Corrosive <input type="checkbox"/> Reactive <input type="checkbox"/> Other (explain) <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hazardous <input type="checkbox"/> Toxic <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ignitable <input type="checkbox"/> Oxidizer	
WASTE GENERATOR INFORMATION Labeled by Dr. Disposal	
Department Chemistry	Phone 555-1212
Building Chemistry	Room BB 022

Example of a hazardous waste container larger than four liters with an old UW Hazardous Waste Label and a second label to indicate the primary hazard.

