

SECTION	VII.	Environmental Programs
Chapter	1	Chemical Waste
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# CHEMICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT

## INTRODUCTION

### PURPOSE

Duke University must take precautions to protect its employees, visitors, students, neighbors and the environment from the improper disposal of chemical wastes. The Environmental Programs Division of the Occupational and Environmental Safety Office (OESO) assures that chemical wastes are appropriately handled and disposed of in accordance with State and Federal laws.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 established requirements for the management of chemicals deemed to be hazardous to the environment. Specifically, such waste must be managed from its generation (cradle) to its final destruction (grave). Duke University/Medical Center is classified as a large quantity generator of hazardous waste.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

Departments shall ensure that all chemical waste generators within their department register with Environmental Programs and comply with all aspects of this policy. In the case of laboratory cleanouts or abandoned materials, the department may bear the costs of identifying and preparing hazardous materials for proper disposal.

Generators of chemical waste shall:

- Follow the procedures outlined in the "Chemical Waste Policy For Duke University/Medical Center," Supplement Q
- Register as a generator with Environmental Programs.
- Ensure that waste containers are properly labeled, in good condition and stored in the laboratory or other locations as prescribed in "Laboratory Chemical Waste Management Practices".
- Minimize the amount of waste generated.
- Properly submit unwanted chemicals for waste disposal in a timely manner.

OESO Environmental Programs will:

- Determine if waste streams are hazardous or non-hazardous.
- Ensure safe removal of chemical wastes from areas of generation.
- Ensure proper packaging and disposal of all waste chemicals.
- Maintain a database of all chemical waste transactions.
- Prepare required reports.

Employees that generate chemical waste must comply with the procedures defined in this Policy.

## **PROCEDURES**

Generators of chemical waste are assigned a generator identification number for the specific location where the waste is stored. Upon registration, a new chemical waste generator will receive training and will receive all materials necessary to properly request chemical waste collection, including a copy of the "Chemical Waste Policy for Duke University/Medical Center".

The Chemical Waste Management Procedure involves the following steps:

- Identification, by the generator, of chemicals intended for disposal.
- Proper labeling chemicals for collection by Environmental Programs.
- Submission of a chemical waste collection request.
- A Hazardous Waste Determination of the chemical substance by OESO Environmental Programs.
- Collection of waste by OESO Environmental Programs.
- Temporary storage, onsite treatment, or shipment to an authorized disposal facility.

## **REFERENCES**

Public Law 94-550, *The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976*  
Code of Federal Regulations, Title 40, Subchapter I, *Solid Wastes*  
North Carolina Administrative Code Title 15 Chapter 13  
Durham City Sewer Ordinance  
"Chemical Waste Policy For Duke University/Medical Center"