

**EPA Required Waste Minimization Plan for LQG's**

The Mercer University Hazardous Waste Management Program is designed to identify opportunities to reduce or eliminate waste categories. Each school or department that generates hazardous waste is interested in cooperative efforts to reduce waste products, since all costs for waste disposal is charged to the “generator” budget. Currently, Mercer University recognizes the following opportunities to reduce the amount of hazardous wastes generated on the Macon Campus:

**1. Pre-Purchase considerations.**

Appropriate Deans and Department Chairs are instructing faculty and laboratory coordinators to avoid the common practice of ordering large volumes of laboratory chemicals in order to get a discount price for the large volume purchase. The faculty and laboratory coordinators are being informed that disposal costs for unused portions of these orders will outweigh any savings realized from the discounted price for the large volume purchase.

**2. Inventory Control.**

Mercer University laboratory programs use inventory control systems to ensure chemicals are depleted before orders are submitted to vendors.

**3. Volume Reduction.**

Mercer University laboratory programs utilize reduced volume (aqueous) methods whenever possible to limit the amount of waste byproducts from laboratory procedures.

**4. Process Change.**

Mercer University will change a process that generates hazardous chemical wastes whenever a suitable alternative procedure is identified.

**5. Surplus Chemical Re-distribution procedures.**

The School of Medicine and the College of Liberal Arts at Mercer University has established methods to manage surplus laboratory chemicals for limited periods of time to allow an opportunity to re-allocate the materials for use by academic or research programs.

**6. Recycling Program for hazardous and universal wastes.**

Mercer University has established recycling programs for the following wastes:

- A. Electronic wastes (computer & office equipment)
- B. Mercury containing equipment (all types)
- C. Batteries (all types)