

MERCER UNIVERSITY HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL PROGRAM

Identification of Components in the University Waste Stream

I. Chemical Waste

- A. Chemical waste has many different properties, and the method(s) selected to accumulate and store chemical waste will vary depending on the chemical and physical properties of the waste products. Mercer has developed methods to accumulate and store chemical waste from the following operations:
1. Academic and Research Laboratories
 2. Clinical Health Care
 3. Facility Maintenance
 4. Grounds Maintenance
 5. Renovation & Construction
 6. The Arts
 7. Athletics & Recreation
- B. **Categories of chemical waste:** **EXAMPLES (Call HSO for questionable items)**
1. "Non-Hazardous" Waste (Other names: "Regular", "Solid")
 2. Universal Waste (Batteries, Mercury Light Bulbs & Switches, Computer EQP)
 3. Hazardous Chemical Waste (EPA listed hazardous chemical waste from all operations)

II. Biological or Biohazardous Waste

- A. "Red-bag" is the official biohazardous labeled bags (red) which are specially processed by a contract vendor for incineration.
Red-bag waste is meant specifically for medical, clinical, or laboratory waste which has not been disinfected by:
1. Autoclave
 2. Chemical disinfection
- B. Sharps Containers
These containers should be included with the red-bag waste according to the specifications of the contract vendor.

III. Radioactive Waste

At Mercer, radioactive waste is strictly regulated by the State of Georgia Radioactive Materials License, under the direction of the University Radiation Safety Officer. Contact the HSO for details.

IV. Animal Waste

- A. Animal Carcasses (Regulated by Mercer, Call HSO for details)
- B. Animal Bedding (Regulated by Mercer, Call HSO for details)

NOTE: If you have questions concerning unique waste generation, accumulation, and storage issues within your operation, please contact the Health & Safety Office @ (478) 301-2544.