# Yale *Environmental Health & Safety*

# *FactSheet*

## PROPER HANDLING OF CHEMICAL HAZARDOUS WASTE

- When a chemical is no longer wanted and meets the EPA's definition of either "listed" waste or a "characteristic waste" it then becomes a "hazardous waste" and thus MUST be labeled with the words "Hazardous Waste."

(SEE BLUE CHEMICAL WASTE MANAGEMENT MANUAL FOR DEFINITION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE)



Photo by: Jerry Domian with cooperation from Yale Center for Advanced Instructional Media

- The complete chemical name(s) must be labeled in English on the container. Chemical abbreviations or formulas ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE, nor are generalizations such as "halogenated waste."
- Store hazardous waste only in the designated satellite accumulation area within close proximity of waste generating locations.
- Store chemical waste in containers that are compatible with the material they contain.
- Chemical waste containers must be segregated by hazard class (e.g. acids separated from bases and flammables). Environmental Health and Safety provides secondary containers for this purpose.
- Always keep hazardous waste containers capped and closed except when adding or removing material from the container.
- Hazardous waste containers must be in good condition with no rust or leaks. If the container is failing, transfer the waste to a new container for disposal.
- No more than 1 quart of any "acutely hazardous waste" or 55 gallons of a regular hazardous waste can be stored in satellite accumulation area.
- Call 432-6545 for the removal of full, tagged hazardous waste containers
- Each laboratory must designate a satellite accumulation area, at or near the point of generation of the waste. This area should be posted with the following green sign provided by Environmental Affairs. Please call 432-6545 to obtain a sign. [Click here](#) to view a PDF copy of the satellite accumulation sign.
- Hazardous waste tags are provided free of charge at the Medical School, KBT & Chemistry Stock Rooms.
- Hazardous waste containers must be labeled as soon as waste is added to the container. [Click here](#) to see a PDF sample of a filled out tag.