

GENERAL HEALTH & SAFETY ISSUES IN PRINTMAKING

- The “Labeling of Hazardous Art Materials Act” requires warning labels on products containing known, chronically hazardous substances on all art materials sold in the US.
- Exposure routes of concern for the chemicals you will be using include inhalation, ingestion, and skin absorption.
- EHS does not recommend eating and/or drinking in the printmaking shop.
- EHS does not recommend using food containers for chemicals.
- Smoking is not allowed in Yale buildings.
- Keep lids on all waste and non-waste chemical containers when they are not in use.
- Store all non-waste solvent containers in the flammable cabinet in the shop.
- Extension cords should not be used as permanent wiring.
- Keep the floor clean and clear of obstructions for egress in case of emergency. There must be a clear path to each door and the path must be at least 28 inches wide at all points.
- Note the locations of fire extinguishers in the shop and in the hallway.
- Dial 911 from a Yale University telephone in case of emergency.

Chemical Waste Streams Generated:

1. Ferric Chloride/Water (from big tray) →5 gallon plastic containers
2. Ferric Chloride/Water (rinsewater) →30 gallon plastic drum
3. Liquid solvent mixture →5 gallon plastic containers
4. Solvent contaminated rags →Red and yellow step cans containing plastic bags

Regulatory Requirements (EPA and CT DEP):

1. Labeling “Hazardous Waste” and specific chemical
2. Containers are to be kept closed at all times except when waste is added (i.e. lids screwed on the 5 gallon containers and drums, lids flush against the step cans).
3. Containers are to be stored at or near the point of generation in designated Satellite Accumulation Areas (SAAs). SAAs are set up around the room where the green signs are posted.
4. Liquid waste containers are to be stored in secondary containers (i.e. trays), wherever feasible.

Other Important Notes:

1. Cloth rags to be laundered should be collected in the yellow step cans. Non-cloth “rags” (i.e. paper towels, newspaper, etc...) should be collected in the red step cans.
2. When a step can becomes full—pull out the bag, tape or tie the bag closed, complete a hazardous waste tag copying information from the tag on the top of the red step can, peel off the back of the tag, affix the tag to the bag, and leave the bag in the SAA.
3. EAS staff will monitor the SAAs and remove all full containers. Please call JoAnn Farrell at 432-9384 if there is an immediate need for chemical waste removal.
4. Empty containers are to be rinsed at least three times with water (rinsate can be poured down the drain); defaced; and thrown into the regular trash. Please do not throw empty containers in the red step cans.