# Yale Environmental Health & Safety



#### RADIOACTIVE WASTE HANDLING PROCEDURES

Below are the basic handling procedures for radioactive waste. Also, see the **Radiation Safety Procedures Manual.** 

## **Dry Radioactive Waste**

Dry radioactive waste must be segregated by half-life class (**Segration Matrix**). The Environmental Services Section has 3 different size boxes available for waste segregation.

## **Sharps**

Sharps must be segregated in the same manner as dry waste. When a sharps container is full place it in the dry waste box for removal. The Environmental Services Section has 2 different size sharps containers available.

## Liquids

Liquids must be segregated by isotope. Environmental Services has plastic one gallon containers available. If the container could possibly be compromised by the liquid content, please call Environmental Services for special consideration.

## **Liquid Scintillation Vials**

Liquid Scintillation Vials must be segregated by half-life class. Two size containers are available for use. Only use fluors approved by the Radiation Safety Section.

## **Biological Waste**

Biological waste shall be placed in a plastic bag and then in a craft (brown paper) bag. Biological waste must be frozen for at least 24 hours prior to removal.

#### **Special Radioactive Waste Considerations**

Do not place lead shielding in the dry waste. Segregate from other waste and the Environmental Services Section will appropriately remove.

Stock vials should also be segregated from other waste. Place stock vials in the appropriate plastic bag, tape shut, tag and call for removal.