

Wastewater Discharge Prohibitions Guidance

Help us meet our regulatory requirements by keeping materials with these characteristics out of laboratory sinks.



Federal or State Regulated Hazardous Waste

Examples: Reactive, Flammable/Ignitable* (FP < 140°F), Corrosive (pH < 2.0 or > 12.5), and/or Toxic (P or U EPA Listed) Materials
 *aqueous solutions with >50% water that are less than 24% alcohol by volume are exempt



Mixtures containing controlled substances

Non-hazardous solutions that exceed MWRA discharge limits

(e.g., Mercury and other Heavy Metals, Oil and Grease > 300 mg/L, PCBs, solids that could clog piping such as pipette tips, Pesticides, (Para)formaldehyde)



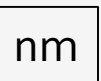
Odiferous Chemicals and Dyes (e.g., Mercaptans or thiols)



Radioactive materials that exceed allowable limits



Biohazardous waste that has not been suitably disinfected



Nanoparticles and Materials Suspected to Bioaccumulate



Due to potential toxicity to the environment and/or human health hazards, if Section 2.2 of the SDS contains any of the following hazard statements, the material is generally prohibited from drain disposal and should be collected as waste. Contact your Lab Safety Advisor for proper disposal guidance.

H300	Fatal if swallowed	H361	Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child
H310	Fatal in contact with skin	H400	Very toxic to aquatic life
H330	Fatal if inhaled	H401	Toxic to aquatic life
H340	May cause genetic defects	H402	Harmful to aquatic life
H341	Suspected of causing genetic defects	H410	Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects
H350	May cause cancer	H411	Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects
H351	Suspected of causing cancer	H412	Harmful to aquatic life with long lasting effects
H360	May damage fertility or the unborn child	H413	May cause long lasting harmful effects to aquatic life

See the EH&S website for additional information

<https://www.ehs.harvard.edu/programs/wastewater-management>

