

Liquid Waste

PACKAGING, LABELLING AND DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE AQUEOUS LIQUID WASTE

DESCRIPTION OF WASTE STREAM

Liquid waste consists of aqueous liquid containing radioactive material within a pH range of 6-9. Aqueous liquid may not contain chemical that are specifically listed, or exhibit characteristics of flammability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity.

HOW TO...

Store in Lab

Bulked liquid should be stored in an appropriate strong plastic container. Place the container in secondary containment with absorbent pad lining. Label containers with a radioactive sticker.

Keep the waste container as close to your work area to minimize chance of spilling. When not working place waste in a posted and secure radiation storage area. Liquid waste containers must always be securely closed when not in use.

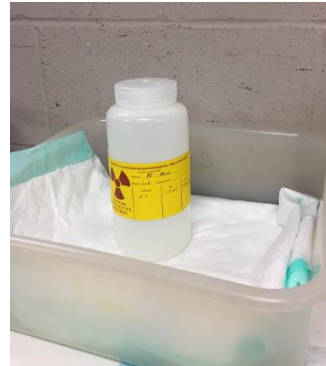
Liquid waste that includes organic solvents, or other hazardous material is considered **mixed waste**.

Segregate waste by isotope and ensure short-lived (half-life less than 120 days) liquid waste are stored in a separate container. Short lived liquid waste may be disposed after 10 half-lives and the waste is surveyed to determine that radioactivity is indistinguishable from background.

Package and Label Waste

Ensure container is properly labelled with information about the liquid, concentrations, isotope(s), activity, and a "Caution Radioactive Materials" sticker.

All sinks that are used for the disposal of liquid waste must be labelled.



Example of Proper Container and Storage.

DISPOSAL

Contact RS to arrange a waste pick-up of bulked liquid waste by completing the online [Waste Collection Form](#).

Disposal through RS is the preferred method, however labs are allowed to dispose of a limited amount of aqueous liquid in the sewer. Each authorized lab is granted a sewer allowance each quarter.

Allowable Activity for Sewer Disposal per Quarter.

- H-3 1,000 μCi
- C-14 200 μCi
- I-125 100 μCi

Records of all sink disposals must be maintained by each PI.

Liquid scintillation fluid is not considered aqueous and should always be collected by RS and not disposed of via sewer.

For questions about Radioactive Waste, contact EH&S at 206.543.0463.