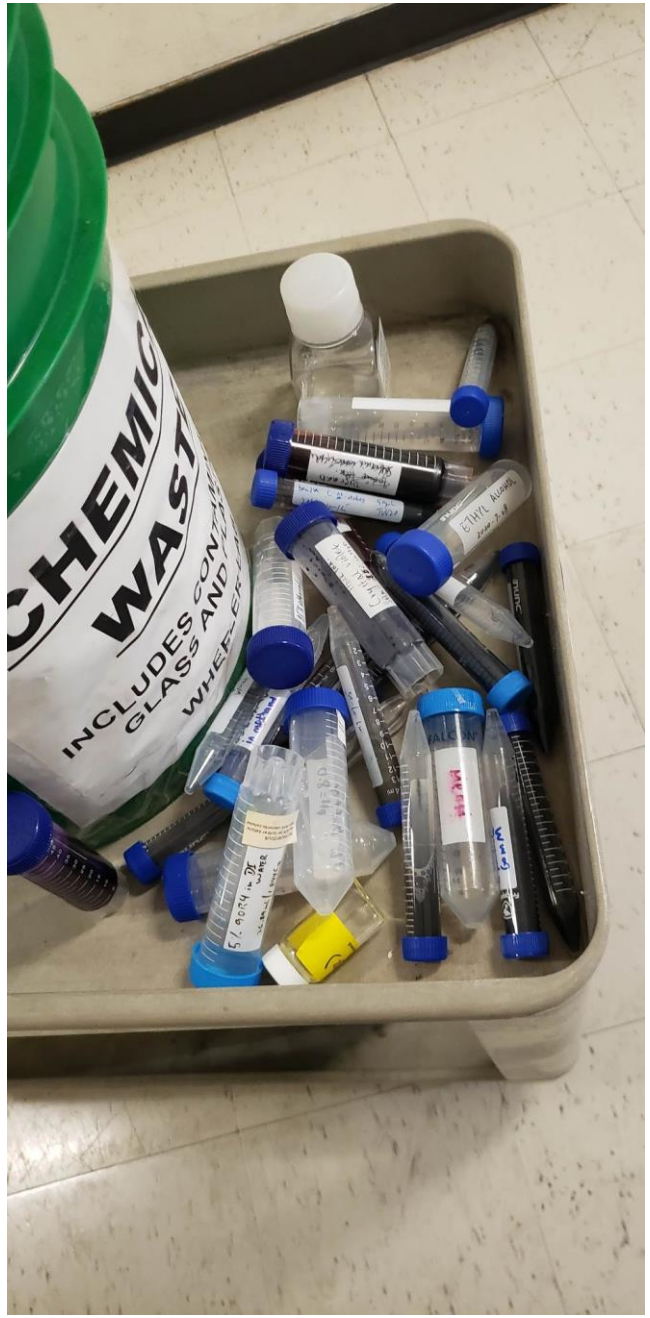
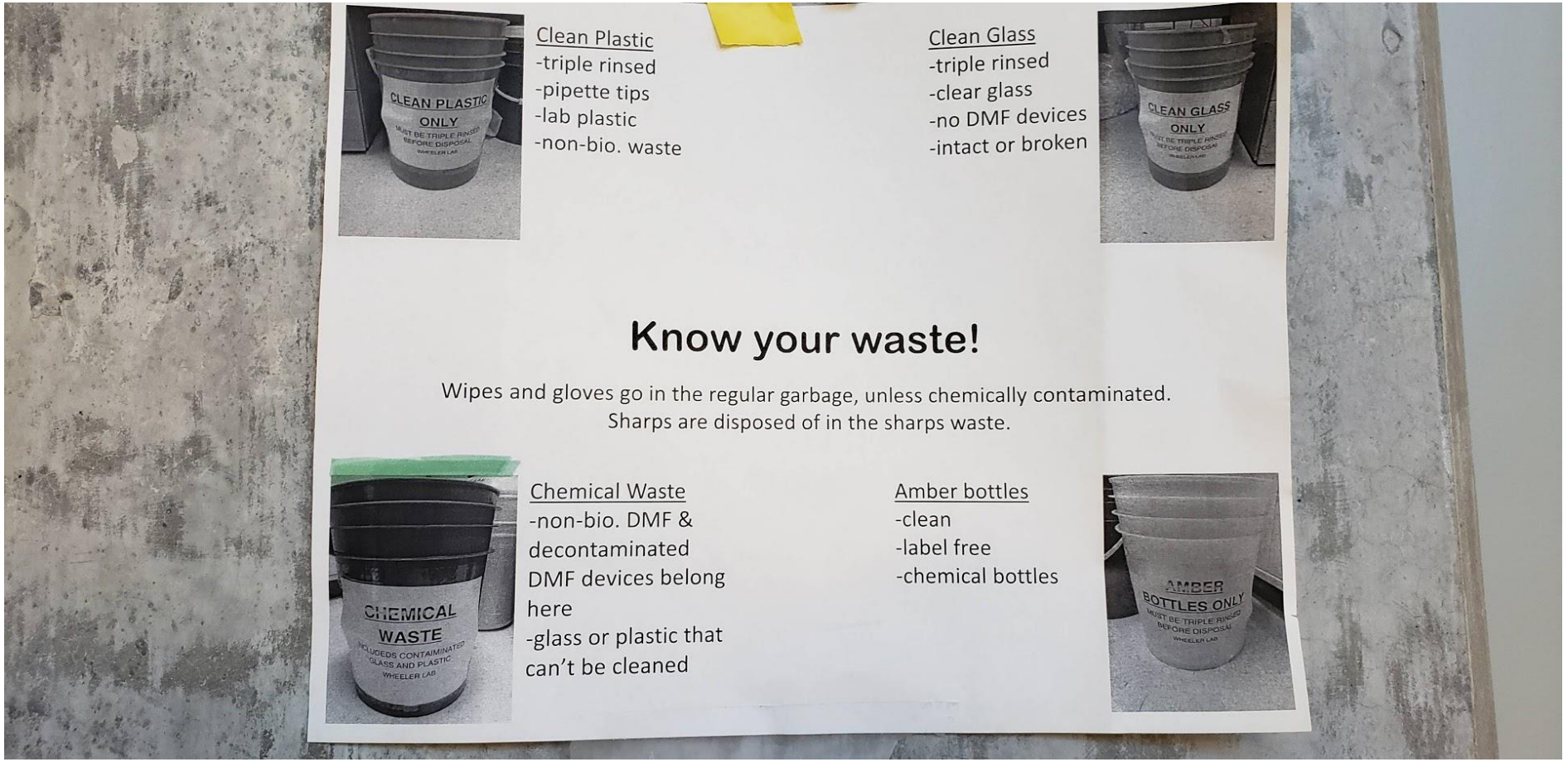
Waste from lab clean up



Guideline(Black and white)



Where do the lab waste go?

The Bucket List

Getting rid of lab waste? Here's how to dispose of it.

Chemical Waste Pail

- Designate and label for lab specific use
- Ethidium Bromide gels
- Contaminated solids including plastics and glass
- No sharps
- Provided by EPS (6-3473)

Radioactive Solid Waste Container

- Contaminated plastics and solids
- Ensure tag provided is completed before pickup
- No liquid scintillation vials
- Provided by EPS (6-3473)

Radioactive Liquid Waste Container

- Radioactive aqueous liquid waste
- No liquid scintillation vial contents
- Green tag: half life <30 days
- Blue tag: half life >30 days & <90 days
- Yellow tag: half life >90 days
- Provided by EPS (6-3473)

Biohazard Waste Pail

- Risk Group 2 biologically contaminated solids
- No liquids, sharps, Risk Group 1 biologicals or animal anatomical waste
- Provided by EPS (6-3473)
- (Some locations receive pails that are lined)

Biohazard Bag

- Biologically contaminated solids only
- No sharps
- Purchased by lab

Sharps Container (CSA Approved)

- Needles, syringes, lancets, blades, etc.
- Designate, separate and label as Biological, Chemical or Radioactive waste
- Purchased by lab

Animal Anatomical Waste Pail

- All animal anatomical waste
- All materials contaminated with toxins requiring incineration
- Biobags, provided by DCM can be used to transport tissues to DCM
- Cytotoxic waste
- No biologically or chemically contaminated bedding
- Provided by EPS (6-3473)

Recycling Bin

- Uncontaminated paper
- Empty boxes
- Catalogues
- Provided by F&S (6-5711)

Regular Garbage

- Uncontaminated refuse (paper towels, pipet wrappers, etc.)
- Decontaminated Risk Group 1 biological solids
- Provided by Caretaking (8-6252)

Amber Laboratory Glass Tote

- Uncontaminated coloured glass (triple rinsed)
- No hazardous materials, garbage or gloves
- No clear glass
- Provided by F&S (6-5711)

Teal Laboratory Glass Tote

- Uncontaminated Clear glass (triple rinsed)
- No hazardous materials, garbage or gloves
- No coloured glass
- Provided by F&S (6-5711)

Orange Laboratory Plastic Tote

- Uncontaminated laboratory plastics (triple rinsed)
- No hazardous materials, garbage or gloves
- Provided by F&S (6-5711)

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Office of Environmental Health & Safety
www.ehs.utoronto.ca

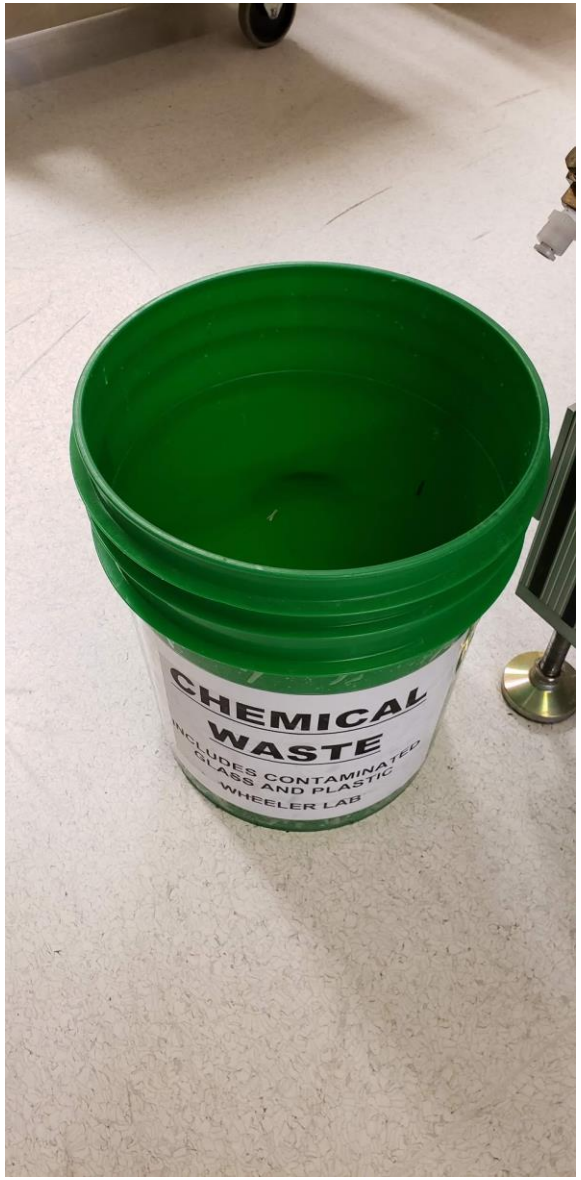
EPS: Environmental Protection Services; a subsidiary of Environmental Health & Safety
F&S: Facilities & Services

Chemical, solid waste

- Gloves (chemically contaminated)
- Pipette tips (Clean and used)
- Used falcon and centrifuge tube (without liquid)
- DMF devices/contaminated glass slides
- Agarose gel (non-ethidium bromide stained)

DON”T

- Falcon tubes with liquid
- Any liquid without absorbent
- Bottles with liquid/content inside

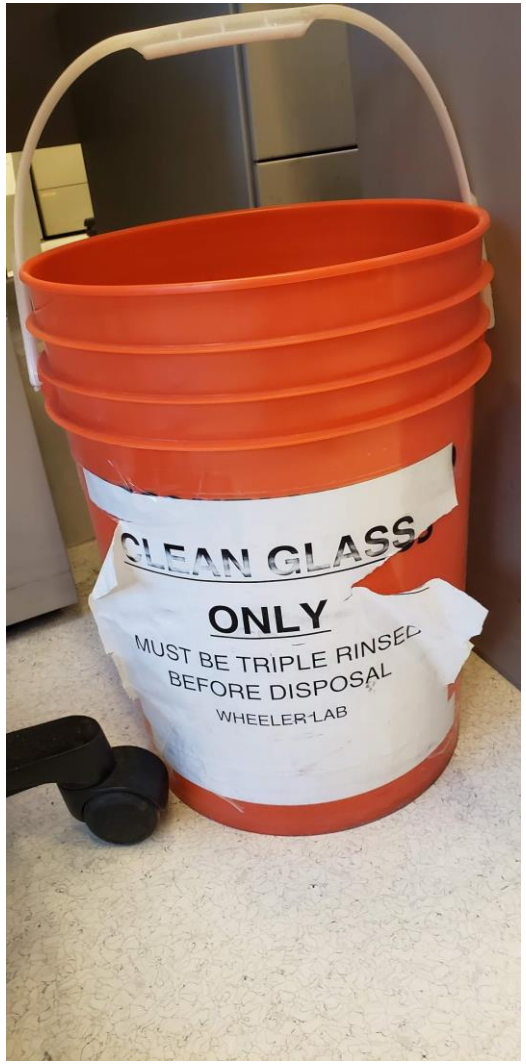


Orange bin, clean plastic and glass

- Clean plastic and glass: **Triple rinsed/cleaned glassware or plastic only**
- Three labelled bins: Plastic, glass, and amber glass

DON”T

- DMF devices
- Contaminated glass/plastic bottle
- Mixing plastic and glass



Biohazard waste, yellow bin

- Risk group 2 Biologically contaminated SOLID materials
- Gloves, DMF devices, tubes
- Bottle cannot be tightly sealed
- Some materials required disinfected by bleach/EtOH

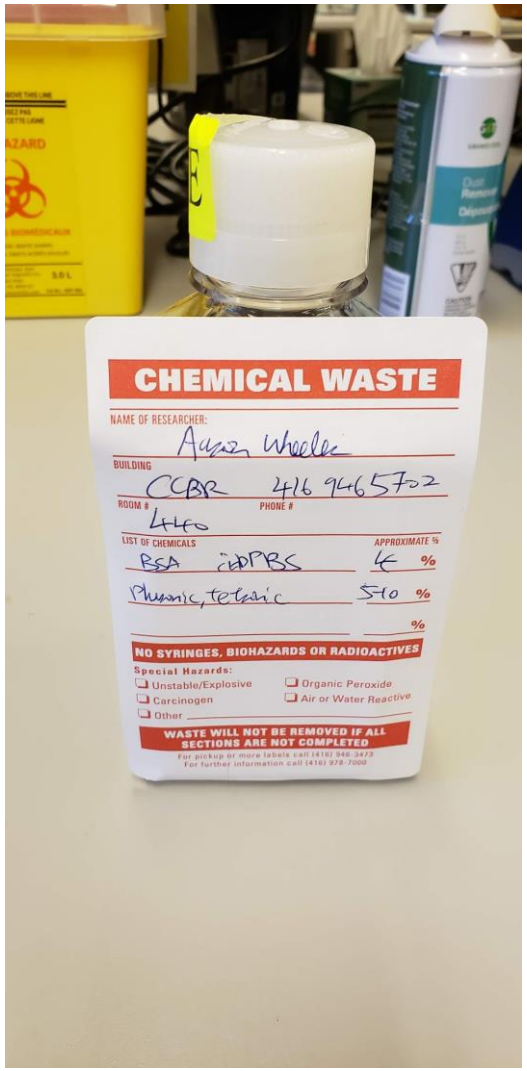
Sharp container

- Needles, blade, any sharps must go in the container
- Any syringe/needles in contact with biological materials may require disinfection
- Close the cover after use
- Request training before using the lip to remove needles from syringe
- Contain me when the container is full
- Be very careful with the container

Liquid waste

- Biological : disinfect and dispose according to SOP
  - Standard: 1 % bleach → sink
- Non-biological/chemical
  - Organic (Acetone, acetonitrile, etc)
  - Fluorinated (FC-40, PFC110, and fluorinated oil)
  - Aqueous (Buffer, BSA, Pluronics, etc)
  - Acidic (HCl, HNO3, acetic acid, etc)
  - Basic (NaOH, NH4OH, basic liquid)
  - Others (Silver nanoparticles, mag. Beads)

Dispose in original/other container: Waste labeling



Temporary storge of waste

- Organic: inflammable cabinet
- Acid/basic: Acid and base cabinet
- Fluorinated: inflammable cabinet
- Aqueous: Cabinet Under the sink
- Others: depends on the nature of the waste.

If you don’t know how to dispose your waste

1. Storage and secure your waste properly
   - Prevent transferring waste to new container, reduce exposure
2. Extra container with possible leak
3. Place the waste in corresponding storage location
4. Place in fume hood if highly volatile/toxic (NOTICE EVERYONE IN LAB)
5. Notice me and also consult EHS (for pickup or disposal instruction)

Resources

- **Environmental Health and Safety at U of T (EHS)**
  - https://ehs.utoronto.ca/laboratory-hazardous-waste-management-and-disposal-manual/
- Training courses on EHS (bloodborne pathogen, SARS-CoV-2, biosafety)
- Senior members in lab and the waste guy (ME)