

NIH CHEMICAL WASTE SERVICE RECYCLING PROGRAM

NIH's chemical waste management program emphasizes reduction of chemical waste generation through process improvements wherever possible as well as in house solvent recovery for reuse, recycling or beneficial reuse of chemical waste shipped off site for treatment and disposal. The Chemical Waste Service (CWS) Recycling Program includes:

ALL TYPES OF BATTERIES



All batteries (Universal Waste) are collected for recycling which incur credit rebate and disposal cost savings. These include: lead acid, high voltage, gel-cell, nickel cadmium, nickel metal hydrides, silver oxide, lithium ion, mercury and coin batteries.

Alkaline batteries are collected in the translucent containers provided by CWS.



FLUORESCENT LIGHT TUBES

All fluorescent lamps and mercury devices (Universal Waste) are collected for recycling.

Lamps include: fluorescent light-tubes, compact fluorescent lamps, mercury and sodium vapor lamps, ultraviolet and High Intensity Discharge (HID) lamps
Mercury devices are Thermometers and thermostats. They are shipped for mercury retorting and glass and aluminum recovery.



HIGH BTU SOLVENTS

Large quantities of flammable organic solvents used in biomedical research processes to synthesize, extract, isolate or purify chemicals are bulked for fuel blending. These include: Acetonitrile, Ethyl Acetate, Hexanes, Xylene, Acetone and Alcohols which are collected in carboys and are analyzed prior to consolidation into drums for shipment to cement kilns.



SILVER RECOVERY

All used photographic silver recovery cartridges are to be recycled through your Maintenance Service Contractor. The CWS collects used films, film-rolls and cassettes for silver recovery.



EMPTY CHEMICAL BOTTLES

All empty glass, plastic and metal bottles or containers that previously contained hazardous and non-hazardous chemicals (liquid & solid) are picked up for recycling. The plastics and metals are sent for recycling and the glass bottles are shipped to a waste to energy incinerators.

Call CWS@ 301-496-4710 for collection totes or bins. 4 sizes of totes are available for lab use.



SURPLUS CHEMICAL REDISTRIBUTION

Large quantities of discarded surplus chemicals are posted on the NIH Free Stuff website for reuse in biomedical research.

Free Stuff is a quick and easy way to post and search for equipment, FREE CHEMICALS, and supplies for the NIH community at: <http://stuff.nih.gov>

Online Chemical requests are tracked by email and delivered to requestors free of charge, on a first request first serve basis.



CHEMICAL SOLVENT RECOVERY

Spent formalin, xylene and ethanol are distilled in NIH's Solvent Recycler and recovered for reuse in biomedical research and incur New Purchase Savings.

Currently there're 5 ICDs participating in this program.

Call DEP at 301-496-7990 to enroll and save cost.



NIH Solvent Recycler

SCRAP METAL AND LEAD

All types of scrap metals and lead are collected for recycling and reuse in manufacturing markets.

Scrap metals include: empty bottles, cans, rods, empty de-valved cylinders, pipes, racks, transformers and drums. Lead scrap include: sheets, bricks, containers, pigs and aprons. After screening for radioactivity they are shipped for recycling/disposal.



For information on NIH's Chemical Waste Service Recycling Program go to: <http://nems.nih.gov> or <http://www.orf.od.nih.gov/EnvironmentalProtection/WasteDisposal>



NIH National Institutes of Health
Office of Management