

Hazardous Waste Pick Up: Campus (August 2009)

Tuesdays: 8:30 a.m.

McMaster University is committed to providing a system for the responsible management of hazardous waste that protects individuals and the environment in all research, teaching and service facilities and activities. Since 1992, RPR Environmental has been working with Environmental & Occupational Health Support Services (EOHSS) in the identification, collection and removal of hazardous chemical waste.

How to Schedule Chemical Waste Removal:

All waste containers must be intact, fitted with a lid, and suitable for containing the chemical. Twenty liter pails must be sealed. Pour spout containers must have an intact cap and must be stored in an area with secondary containment in case of a leak or breach of the original container.

Each container must be labeled with the yellow chemical waste label identifying the chemical, hazards associated with the chemical, Researcher Name, Building, Room and extension number. All chemical waste labels must be dated. **Chemical waste labels** are free and available through ABB Stores (B166) and EOHSS at www.workingatmcmaster.ca/eohss or ext. 24352.

Each waste label has a red number associated with the item #. This number must be written on the Chemical Waste Disposal Record.

A **Chemical Waste Disposal Record** is available on line, and by contacting EOHSS. Records must contain full chemical names in addition to identifying whether the chemical is an acid or base, including pH level.

Completed chemical waste disposal record must be faxed to EOHSS at 905 540-9085 or emailed to waste@mcmaster.ca by Friday to ensure pick up the following Tuesday.

Special Requests:

EOHSS will make arrangements for special requests including chemical identification, lab clean out, and removal of explosives. Costs are associated with special requests.

Identification of unknown chemicals will be arranged through a special technician through RPR Environmental. An account number is required.

A lab clean out of large volumes of chemicals also requires an account number.

Storage of Chemicals Waiting for Pick Up:

All chemicals must be stored appropriately including the requirement for secondary containment. To minimize fire and explosive hazards, all incompatible and highly reactive chemicals must be stored separately. For example, oxidizers should not be stored with flammables; inorganic salts should not be stored with acids. Check the **Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)** for details.

Pick Up Times and Locations:

RPR Environmental arrives at 8:30 a.m. every Tuesday and begins pick up at the following buildings: Life Science (LSB) Psychology, Nuclear Research (NRB) John Hodgins Engineering (JHE), General Science (GSB), Accelerator (TAB), Burke Science (BSB), followed by AN Bournes Science (ABB). In addition, used battery pickups occur at the five campus locations (see **battery recycling and disposal**). If your chemical waste is not located in any of these buildings, simply identify the building and room location on the chemical waste disposal record and it will be added to the Tuesday's pick up.

Need help? Call EOHSS (ext. 24352) or FHSc Safety Office (ext. 24956)