

General Waste Disposal Guidelines

- Liquid/Solid chemical wastes. Under no circumstances is hazardous waste to be disposed of illegally. Contact the Chemical Environmental Health & Safety Coordinator [CEHSC], Steve Kucera – 813-842-3528, if you are unsure of your waste's disposal requirements.
- Sharps – Sharp objects such needles, scalpels and other instruments are to be disposed of in proper sharps containers. You may request an approved container or schedule a pickup with the CEHSC.
- Glass – Glassware that is broken or could easily break is not to be thrown in the trash. You may request an approved container or schedule a pickup with the CEHSC.
- Do Not dispose of glassware or sharps containers that contain liquid or solid wastes. Transfer all contents to the appropriate disposal receptacle prior to disposal.
- Fluorescent bulbs – Spent fluorescent bulbs contain mercury and must be collected for recycling. Do not discard any bulbs in the common trash. Call UT facilities or the CEHSC to pick up fluorescent bulbs.
- Empty chemical containers – When the contents of a container have been completely exhausted, the label should be removed or unambiguously crossed out and the container can go in the appropriate receptacle (plastic and metal containers can go in the trash, glass containers can go in glass containers).

For example: Empty paint containers can go in the trash. However, if there are liquid paints present in the container, this may be a hazardous waste and can not be discarded in the trash.
- Spent rechargeable and lead-acid batteries and electronics must be recycled. Contact the CEHSC for pickup and storage of these items.
- Oily rags or solvent soaked rags must be contained within a metal fire-proof container that has a self-closing lid. The contents must be emptied routinely by a UT authorized vendor and NOT placed in the regular trash.