

THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

POLICY FOR WASTE DISPOSAL AND SPILLS

HAZARDOUS WASTE

All departments must follow the procedures for surplus chemicals/hazardous waste disposal found in the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center *Laboratory Safety Manual*. When departments follow these procedures, the Environmental Health and Safety Office (EHSO) will coordinate pick-up of the hazardous materials and will manage them for surplus, reuse, recycling, or waste disposal as appropriate. This will be done at no cost to the department with the following exceptions:

1. waste generated from a consistent, continuous or on-going process, or
2. waste generated in a location other than on the OUHSC Oklahoma City campus.

For these exceptional cases, the invoice(s) for disposal will be passed on to the generating department.

BIOMEDICAL WASTE

Departments are responsible for ensuring the proper disposal of biomedical waste. This should be done in accordance with the procedures outlined by the OUHSC *Laboratory Safety Manual*. Each department is responsible for all related costs.

HAZARDOUS/BIOLOGICAL SPILLS

Departments that purchase and use their own spill kits to clean up small spills within their work area will not be charged for waste disposal of the spill and associated clean-up materials. Departments that do not have appropriate spill kits and who contact the Environmental Health and Safety Office (EHSO) to perform the clean-up will be forwarded invoice(s) associated with the cost of replacement of materials used for clean-up and for disposal of the resulting waste material. When spill clean-up is beyond the ability of the department or the EHSO, an outside vendor will be contacted to perform the cleanup and disposal and the invoice(s) associated with the spill will be forwarded to the department for payment.

ABANDONED CHEMICAL/BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS

Departments are responsible for ensuring that their personnel purchase and dispose of chemical, biohazardous, and radioactive materials in a manner that does not generate unknown/unlabeled, abandoned, excessive, or unnecessary waste. This includes making certain that unused chemicals are not abandoned after a researcher's departure or relocation, or major laboratory clean-outs. When such wastes are generated, the invoice(s) for disposal of such items will be forwarded to the department for payment.