



# Pharmaceutical Waste Guidelines

Pharmaceutical waste may be a hazardous chemical waste, controlled substance or biomedical waste. Proper classification is necessary to be in compliance with the laws regulating each waste type.

## Hazardous Chemical Pharmaceutical Waste:

A number of common pharmaceuticals are regulated as hazardous chemical waste. These include but are not limited to:

Arsenic Trioxide	Epinephrine	Nitroglycerine	Saccharin
Chloroform	Formaldehyde	Phenacetine	Selenium Sulfide
Chorambucil	Hexachlorophene	Phenol	Streptozotcin
Cyclophosphamide	Lindane	Physostigimine Salicylate	Uracil mustard
Dauomycin	Melphalan	Physostigmine	Warfarin >0.3%
Dichlorodifluoromethane	Mitomycin C	Reserpine	
Diethylstilbestrol	Nicotine	Resorcinol	

Pharmaceutical waste that exhibit one or more of the EPA characteristics of a hazardous chemical waste are also regulated as a hazardous chemical waste. These characteristics are:

- Corrosivity
- Ignitability
- Reactivity
- Toxicity

All pharmaceutical waste that is also a hazardous chemical waste must be managed according to the UCI Hazardous Waste Guidelines available online at [www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/).

## Controlled Substance Pharmaceutical Waste:

All controlled substance pharmaceutical waste must be disposed through EH&S. For a list of controlled substances, please visit [www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/occhith/control.html](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/occhith/control.html).

- Visit [www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/) and submit an EH&S Controlled Substance Collection Request.
- An *approved* and *authorized* representative from EH&S will pick up the controlled substance pharmaceutical waste.

## Pharmaceutical Waste:

All other pharmaceutical waste may be managed as a biomedical waste.

- Place the pharmaceutical waste in a cardboard box no larger than 12in x 12in x 12in.
- Securely tape shut the box and label it "PHARMACEUTICAL WASTE - FOR INCINERATION ONLY".
- Provide a list of pharmaceutical waste inside the box. Include drug/chemical name and container size.
- Pharmaceutical waste managed as a biomedical waste must be transferred to EH&S within 7 calendar days of being generated.

### ***Pharmaceutical Waste –Managed As A Biomedical Waste Disposal:***

Request Pickup Service via the Internet:

- Visit [www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/)
- Fill out the "Biomedical Waste Collection" form.
- We will pick up your waste within 1-3 days.