Hazardous Waste Management Program

Responsible Administrator: Environmental Compliance Assistant Director
Revised: August 2023

Summary: The University of California, Irvine (UC Irvine) Hazardous Waste Management Program (HWMP) provides cost-effective chemical, biohazardous, and universal waste management to comply with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

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1. Program Description

The UC Irvine HWMP develops and implements policies and procedures for managing hazardous wastes that are regulatory compliant, efficient, and cost-effective.

2. Scope

This program details the elements of the HWMP to:

- Identify and establish policies and procedures for managing hazardous wastes.
- Comply with Federal, State, and local laws and regulations.

3. Definitions

- CUPA – Certified Unified Program Agency.
- DTSC – Department of Toxic Substances Control.
- EPA - Environmental Protection Agency.

4. Responsibilities

Staff / Students / Faculty / Lab Personnel

- Participate in training programs to gain the necessary skills and knowledge to appropriately identify, label, segregate, store and dispose of hazardous waste.
- Follow hazardous waste procedures and guidelines.

Principal Investigator (PI) / Lab Manager

- Responsible for complying with UC Irvine hazardous waste guidelines.
- Follow-up on audit findings with corrective actions.
Department Chairs / Dean

- Responsible for ensuring that PIs comply with UC Irvine hazardous waste guidelines.

Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Hazardous Waste Management Division

- Provide good service to meet customer needs.
- Handle hazardous waste safely.
- Assist with identification and waste characterization.
- Manage regulatory compliance and internal finances for waste disposal.
- Provide program framework for labs.
- Provide training resources and consultative services.
- Obtaining and maintaining an EPA identification number.
- Manage off-site hazardous waste transportation and disposal.
- Manage land disposal restrictions for certain hazardous wastes.
- Recordkeeping of the types and amounts of hazardous wastes generated.
- Review and sign all Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifests.

5. Program Components

UC Irvine is a large quantity generator (LQG) of hazardous waste. The hazardous waste regulations impose several requirements on LQG’s of hazardous waste including:

- Process for identification and classification of hazardous waste. Hazardous waste is defined in California Code of Regulations Title 22 that fully incorporate federal regulations in section 66261 as a waste that is either listed as a hazardous waste or exhibits any characteristic of a hazardous waste.
- Package hazardous waste in a container compatible with the material and segregate to prevent incompatible mixtures.
- Keep containers closed except to add waste.
- Properly label hazardous waste containers.
- Follow accumulation time limits.
- Secure hazardous waste storage areas.
- Inspect hazardous waste containers weekly for leaks, corrosion, and deterioration.
- Develop a hazardous waste emergency contingency plan.
- Employees who handle hazardous waste in any capacity must be trained at a level equal with their duties.
- Implement source reduction as the preferred method of managing hazardous waste.
- Hazardous waste must be managed in accordance with the UC Irvine guidelines.
- All Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifests must be reviewed and signed by an authorized EHS Hazardous Waste Management staff member.


6. Reporting Requirements

- Hazardous Waste Generator Fee
- EPA ID Number Verification Questionnaire
- Hazardous Waste Biennial Report
- Electronic Waste Annual Report
7. References

Hazardous Waste Management Laws and Regulations

State Laws

- Hazardous Substance Account Act, Health and Safety Code § 25340-25392
- Hazardous Waste Treatment Permitting Reform, Health and Safety Code § 25201Act (AB 1772)

Federal Laws

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 42 USC § 6901-6987 (RCRA)
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, 42 USC § 9601-9675
- Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)
- Standards for Universal Waste Management, 40 CFR §273

State Regulations

- Identification and Listing of Hazardous Waste, 22 CCR §§66261-66261.126
- Requirements for Universal Waste, 22 CCR § 66261.9
- Universal Waste Regulations, 23 CCR § 66273-66273.70