Dental clinics generate a variety of wastes that are regulated as a hazardous waste by local, state, and federal laws. A waste is considered a hazardous waste if it contains substances or has properties that make it harmful to human health or the environment when improperly managed.

Signal words to look for on the label are DANGER, WARNING, CAUTION, POISON, TOXIC, COMBUSTIBLE, FLAMMABLE, OXIDIZER, or CORROSIVE.

Common types of hazardous waste include:

- Filters From Mercury Containing Amalgam Separators
- Glutaraldehyde Disinfectants
- Scrap Lead Foil For Recycling
- Silver Containing X-Ray Photo Fixer
- Silver Containing X-Ray Photo Developer
- Unknown Substances

For more information on how to determine if your waste is hazardous visit [www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/).

Hazardous Chemical Waste Training

- All employees that work with hazardous chemical waste must complete the Hazardous Waste Training class available online [www.uclc.uci.edu/](http://www.uclc.uci.edu/).

Hazardous Waste Labeling

- Hazardous waste labels are available online [www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/](http://www.ehs.uci.edu/programs/enviro/).
- All hazardous waste must be labeled upon the start of accumulation.
- Labels must be complete, legible, and permanent.

Hazardous Waste Segregation

- All hazardous waste must be segregated to prevent incompatible mixtures.
- Segregation can be by hazard class. Hazard class examples include: Flammable, Oxidizer, Acid, Base, and Toxic.
- For more information on specific chemical incompatibility, consult a safety data sheet (SDS).

Hazardous Waste Storage

- Hazardous waste must be transferred to EH&S for disposal within 6 months of being generated.
- Hazardous waste containers must be stored in secondary containment.
- Containers must be closed when not in use.

Hazardous Waste Inspection

- Hazardous waste containers must be inspected weekly for signs of leaks, corrosion, or deterioration.

Hazardous Waste Disposal

- Request a pickup online [www.ehs.uci.edu](http://www.ehs.uci.edu) or call EH&S (949) 824-6200.

DO NOT DISPOSE OF CHEMICALS BY EVAPORATION, POURING DOWN THE DRAIN OR PLACING IN THE TRASH.