

SAFETY ALERT

November 15, 2022

Non-Hazardous Wipe Disposal

Hazards: Improper disposal of hazardous waste

As part of regular research activities in lab areas, spent paper towels, gloves, and other items are collected in the hood areas, glove boxes and on bench tops. These are sometimes collected in a small plastic bag. Bags of wipes/gloves must be clearly identified as either non-hazardous trash, or if contaminated with chemicals, as hazardous waste.

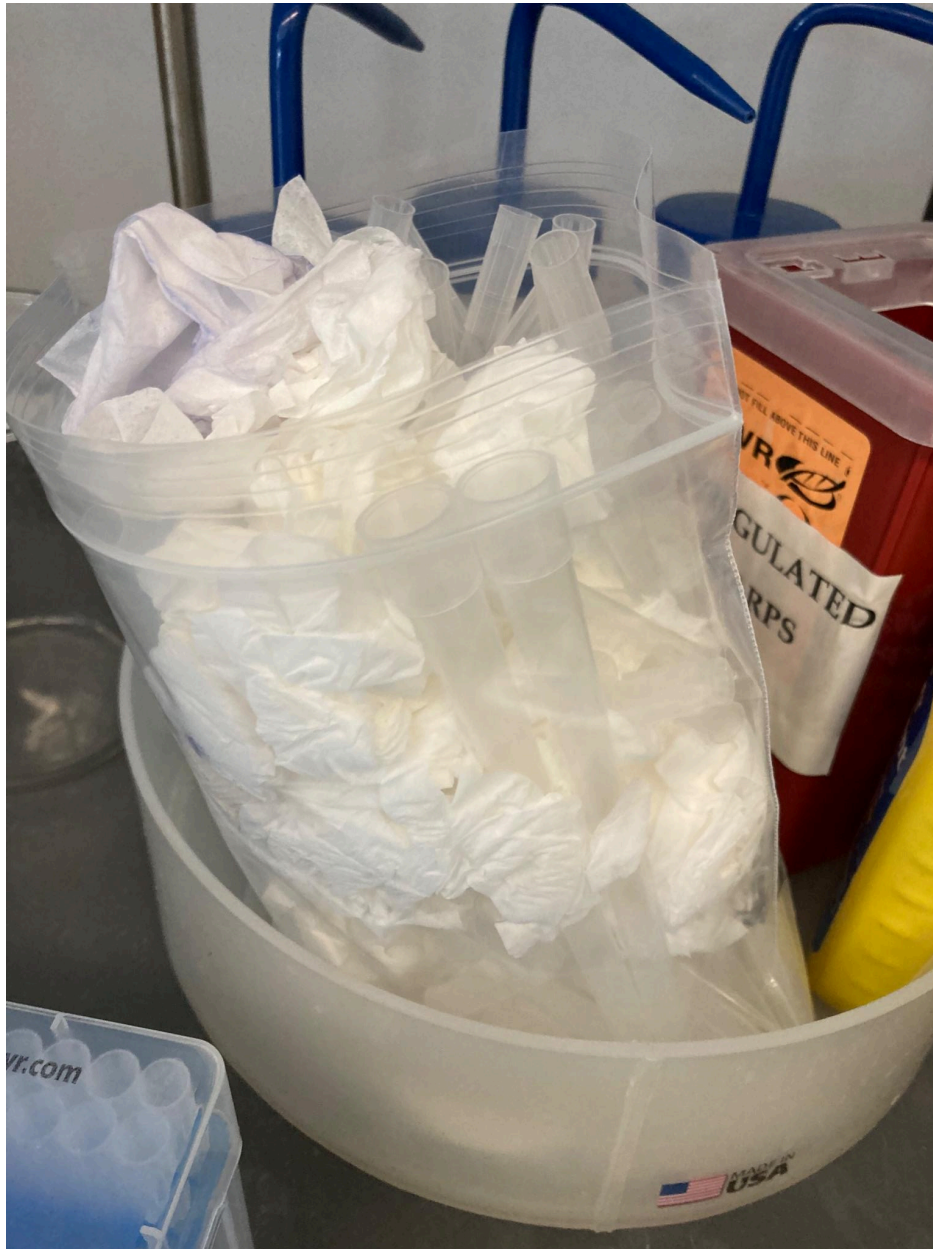
NOTE: If the contents are contaminated with flammable, corrosive, nanomaterial, or toxic chemicals, it is considered a hazardous waste and the bag must have a completed red hazardous waste label affixed, sealed, and placed into a Satellite Accumulation Area (SAA).

LBNL Hazardous Waste identification requirements are found in Chapter 20 of the ES&H Manual: [PUB-3000 Chapter 20 Work Process C](#).

When generating **non-hazardous** trash in the hoods, glove boxes, or on bench tops, please practice the following:

1. Place non-hazardous materials directly into the area trash can when possible.
2. If it is more convenient to collect non-hazardous wipes/gloves at the work location, use a small plastic bag. Clearly identify the bag as “trash”, or “non-hazardous trash”. Do not use the words “hazardous” or “waste”. Simply use a marker pen and clearly write on the bag. Pre-printed stick-on labels are also available.
3. Do not collect large quantities in the hoods or on counter tops. Dispose non-hazardous trash in the area trash cans at the end of each day.
4. Do not allow the plastic bags or wipes/gloves to come in contact with hot surfaces such as hot plates or ovens. This is a potential fire hazard.
5. Items that are contaminated with flammable, corrosive, or toxic chemicals must not be mixed with the non-hazardous trash. If there is suspected mixing, the entire contents must be handled as hazardous waste (red waste label, SAA, etc.)

If you have any questions regarding disposal issues, please contact the ETA Safety Manager, Ron Scholtz at X8137.



NON-HAZARDOUS TRASH OR HAZARDOUS WASTE? NO LABEL THAT IDENTIFIES!