

**Paint and Paint Thinner Waste: Collection,
Storage and Disposal****Procedure: 8.01 Created: 9/10/2013**
Version: 2.1 Revised: 7/19/2018**A. Purpose**

To ensure that all paint and paint thinner waste, including solvent contaminated rags, is collected and stored in a manner consistent with all applicable Federal, State, and Local Regulations and Columbia University's Hazardous Waste Management Guidelines.

B. Applicability/Scope

This policy and procedure shall apply to all Project Managers, Facilities Operations, Laboratory personnel, Students and Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) employees who handle, store or dispose of paint and paint thinner materials.

Paint and paint thinner waste may contain hazardous materials, such as flammable and toxic solvents and heavy metals which may make the waste stream a hazardous waste. Improper Disposal of all hazardous wastes is strictly regulated by Federal, State, and Local regulations, as well as by University policy and procedure.

C. Definitions

N/A

D. Responsibilities

1. EH&S
 - a. Develop, comply with and enforce this policy.
 - b. Pick up paint and paint thinner waste from laboratories.
 - c. Maintain waste in compliance with regulations in proper waste storage facilities.
 - d. Supply containers and labels for waste collection and storage.
 - e. Provide proper waste disposal.
2. Contractors, Facilities Operations, Project Managers, Laboratory Personnel, Students
 - a. Comply with this policy.
 - b. Correctly store waste containers in compliance with this policy.
 - c. Request containers and labels needed from EH&S.

E. Procedures

1. All paint and paint thinner material determined to be no longer useful shall be collected in accordance with University procedures and policies of the University's 5L's of hazardous waste management (see references section).
2. Upon collection of any hazardous waste, the container must have a hazardous waste label (see appendices) affixed and completed per the 5Ls of hazardous waste management.
3. Segregate paint and paint thinners from other waste/materials. Further segregate paints by paint type (e.g., latex, oil-based, epoxy-based, spray paint). It should be noted that small amounts of latex-based paints can be air dried and disposed of as solid waste.
4. Paints should remain in their original containers.
5. Consolidate used or unwanted paint thinner in a closed-head plastic container. All containers must be in good condition with no visible signs of corrosion or physical damage. Collection containers are available through the online chemical/hazardous waste pickup form (see forms section).

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6. Contact EH&S to schedule disposal of chemical waste or if assistance is needed in labeling containers or if additional/replacement containers are needed. Paint Shop personnel can refer to information posted in the shop for additional assistance.
7. Rags and other soft materials contaminated with either paint or paint thinner are to be stored in closed top containers provided by the EH&S department through the online chemical/hazardous waste pickup form (see forms section).
8. Indicate on the label the type of solvent contaminated rags collected (e.g., mineral spirits, acetone, etc.).

F. Emergency contacts

Morningside & Nevis EH&S: 212-854-8749

Medical Center EH&S: 212-305-6780

Lamont Safety: 845-365-8822

G. Medical Surveillance

N/A

H. Recordkeeping

N/A

I. Appendices

Waste Label

J. Forms[Chemical Waste Pickup Request Form](#)**K. References**[5L's of Waste Management](#)[Waste Management and Recycling](#)**L. Acknowledgements**

N/A

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**Appendix
Waste Label**

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

CHEMICAL / HAZARDOUS WASTE
HANDLE WITH CARE!

Lab/PI: Kelly Phone: 5-555

Building: Grove Shop Room #: Garage

CHEMICAL (No Formulas or Abbreviations) AMOUNT (%)

Paint Thinner

Ignitable Corrosive Toxic Reactive
 Acid Base Oxidizer

Contact EH&S at: MS/Nevis (212)854-8749 MC (212)305-6780

Scan for Pick-up

www.vesta.cumc.columbia.edu/ehs/wastepickup
Keep lid closed when not in use. See reverse side for directions.

EH&S Use Only