

Rutgers Environmental Health and Safety (REHS) Guidance Document

Title: Disposal of Used Oil from Laboratories

Revision Date: September 14, 2020

BACKGROUND

Many Rutgers laboratories generate used oil from research activities. Used oil is regulated by the EPA and must be managed appropriately to protect the environment. This document provides guidance for proper storage and disposal of used oils.

Vacuum Pump Oils, Hydraulic Oils & Lubricating Oils

Used oil must be collected in a sturdy container such as a drum, carboy or pail and labeled as follows:

- Rutgers Used Oil Label (See Fig. 1)
- “Used Oil” handwritten on the container provided the used oil is now being stored in the original manufacturer’s container with a legible label

Used oil containers must be kept closed at all times except when used oil is being added. Used oil containers should be stored in secondary containment. Once the container is full, use the following link to request a waste pick-up by REHS.

<https://halflife.rutgers.edu/forms/hazwaste.php>

NOTE: Vegetable oils generated from research laboratories are also managed according to these same guidelines.

Used Oil Contaminated Debris

Used oil contaminated debris must be collected, stored and labeled as identified above for used oil. Secondary containment is only necessary if there is free liquid present in the container.

Used Oil Contaminated with Hazardous Materials

Used oils that are contaminated with hazardous materials (i.e. solvents, heavy metals, etc.) must be managed as hazardous waste. Please refer to the Hazardous Waste Disposal Policy/Procedure at the following link for specific information on managing hazardous wastes. See Fig. 2 for the Rutgers Hazardous Waste Label.

https://ipo.rutgers.edu/sites/default/files/hazwaste_disposal%20%281%29.pdf

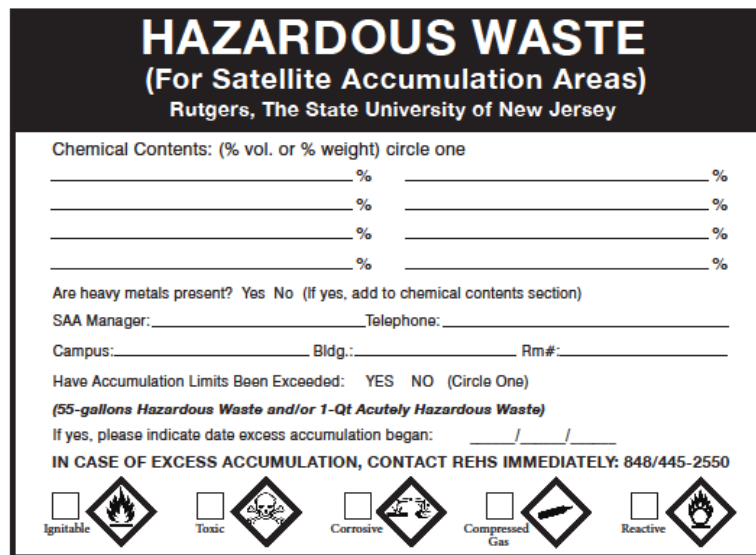
Disposal of Equipment with Large Oil Reservoirs (>5gallons)

Many large pieces of laboratory equipment such as electron microscopes, x-ray generating devices and medical x-ray units have large oil reservoirs (>5 gallons). REHS must be contacted prior to removing used oil from these types of equipment. If applicable, REHS will arrange to sample and test the oil for PCBs which will ensure proper handling and disposal of the used oil.

Fig. 1. Rutgers Used Oil Label



Fig. 2. Rutgers Hazardous Waste Label

A rectangular form with a black header containing the text "HAZARDOUS WASTE (For Satellite Accumulation Areas) Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey" in white. The form contains several sections: "Chemical Contents: (% vol. or % weight) circle one" with four rows of percentage fields; "Are heavy metals present? Yes No (If yes, add to chemical contents section)"; "SAA Manager: _____ Telephone: _____"; "Campus: _____ Bldg.: _____ Rm#: _____"; "Have Accumulation Limits Been Exceeded: YES NO (Circle One)"; "(55-gallons Hazardous Waste and/or 1-Qt Acutely Hazardous Waste)"; "If yes, please indicate date excess accumulation began: ____/____/____"; "IN CASE OF EXCESS ACCUMULATION, CONTACT REHS IMMEDIATELY: 848/445-2550"; and five hazard icons with checkboxes: Ignitable (flame), Toxic (skull and crossbones), Corrosive (liquid dripping), Compressed Gas (gas cylinder), and Reactive (explosion).

Call REHS at (848) 445-2550
hazwaste@rutgers.edu