

Proper Waste Management of Solvent Contaminated Wipes

Fact Sheet

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Solvent contaminated wipes and debris are often generated during equipment cleaning and maintenance activities conducted in research laboratories, facilities, and clinical settings. Wipes that have been in contact with certain solvents and listed chemicals are considered hazardous waste and must be managed appropriately.

Solvent Wipes Regulated as Hazardous Waste

The following wipes must be collected by Hazardous Waste Management (HMM). For additional help to determine whether a solvent wipe is regulated as hazardous waste, contact HMM at (734) 763-4568.

- Wipes containing free liquid that cannot be drain disposed
- Wipes contaminated with:
 - Heavy metals or MI "S" listed waste (Aflatoxin, Dioxins & Dibenzofuran TCDF)
 - PCBs
- Wipes used to clean up spills of:
 - "[P" listed commercial chemical product](#) or "[U" listed commercial chemical product](#)"
 - Hazardous waste
- Wipes that have been in contact with:
 - An ignitable or toxic solvent (other than F-listed) where the solvent has not been consumed in the process
 - The following F-listed solvents or chemicals:

Halogenated Solvents

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| • Tetrachloroethylene | • Carbon Tetrachloride | • Ortho-dichlorobenzene |
| • Trichloroethylene | • Chlorinated Fluorocarbons | • Trichlorofluoromethane |
| • Methylene Chloride | • Chlorobenzene | • 1,1,2-trichloroethane |
| • 1,1,1-trichloroethane | • 1,1,2-trichloro-1,2,2-trifluoroethane | |

Non-Halogenated Solvents

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| • Xylene | • n-Butyl Alcohol | • Carbon Disulfide |
| • Acetone | • Cyclohexanone | • Isobutanol |
| • Ethyl Acetate | • Methanol | • Pyridine |
| • Ethyl Benzene | • Cresols & Cresylic Acid | • Benzene |
| • Ethyl Ether | • Nitrobenzene | • 2-ethoxyethanol |
| • Methyl Isobutyl Ketone | • Toluene | • 2-nitropropane |
| | • Methyl Ethyl Ketone | |
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Wipes that Can Be Disposed in Normal Trash

Wipes that have been in contact with a solvent (other than listed above) where the solvent has been consumed during use may be discarded as normal trash. Examples include ethanol or isopropyl alcohol wipes where the ethanol or isopropyl alcohol has been consumed during use and the wipe is dry at the time of disposal.