

Safetygram

NCI Frederick

ISM160

Laboratory Personnel

February 2012

Use of Plastic Jugs for Waste Disposal

Dilute aqueous solutions of carcinogens and certain other wastes require special handling for safe disposal. A convenient disposal method is available for aqueous wastes that are not EPA-regulated hazardous wastes (What are Hazardous Wastes? See Health, Safety, and Environmental Compliance Manual for a description). Dilute aqueous wastes such as ethidium bromide should be poured into one gallon plastic containers packed with absorbent. The container is full when freestanding liquid can not be seen at the bottom. At this point, the container should be securely capped and placed in a leak proof plastic bag. Laboratory personnel are responsible for placing the closed container in the medical waste carts located outside laboratory buildings. Fort Detrick personnel collect medical waste carts daily for incineration.

Plastic containers, absorbent, and bags are conveniently available through the NCI Frederick Supply Warehouse. The catalog numbers and brief description of these products from the current Warehouse Supply Catalog follows:

- JUG, ROUND, WIDE MOUTH, FOR DISPOSAL OF AQUEOUS CARCINOGEN WASTE, 1 GAL., #2185WM4, (4/CS)
- JUG LID, TO FIT 1 GALLON WIDE MOUTH POLYPROPYLENE LINERLESS WHITE 110-400 FINISH, #91104 PL, CS.OF 315

If you have any questions about waste disposal or need additional assistance, please contact Waste Management at x5718, email ncichemwaste@mail.nih.gov or EHS at x1451.