

ISM-160

LABORATORY PERSONNEL

SEPTEMBER 2008

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 (see Health, Safety, and Environmental Compliance Manual for a description of hazardous waste regulations). 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 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 number and brief description of these products from the current Warehouse Supply Catalog follows:

SPWH-81151082	Jug, Round, Wide-mouth, 4 per case
SPWH-81151083	Jug, Lid, for Wide-mouth jug
SPWH-81151081	"Power-Sorb" absorbent material, 12 pound bag absorbs up to 10 times its own weight
SPWH-81050124	Bag, polyethylene, 24" x 24", red translucent, 4 mil thick, 200 per case (may hold several jugs)

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