

GRUNDON

The



DO'S

&

DON'TS

of Laboratory Waste



Discover best practices for handling **clinical and hazardous** waste, meeting compliance regulations and reducing environmental risk in laboratory settings.

Compliant laboratory waste management is essential for protecting people, reputation and the environment. Laboratories across chemistry, biology, pharmaceutical, healthcare and research settings generate a wide range of clinical and hazardous waste, including biological, genetically modified (GM), chemical and sharps waste, all of which must be handled and disposed of in line with waste regulations.

This guide explains the key do's and don'ts of laboratory waste disposal to promote safe practices, ensure compliance with regulations and reduce the risk of injury, contamination or environmental harm in any laboratory setting.



✓ DO'S

Do segregate waste

Separate waste by type (such as solvent, aqueous biological, sharps and general waste) to ensure safe handling and proper disposal according to clinical and hazard waste and prevent unnecessary contamination of general waste.

Do use approved containers

Always dispose of laboratory waste in appropriate, approved containers to reduce the risk of injury, contamination or leaks. Grundon can provide a range of UN-approved containers for all hazardous waste streams, removing the guesswork. For sharps waste, Grundon offers a reusable sharps container collection service using Sharpak Zero™ containers with a VisiLOCK® closing mechanism, designed for safe, compliant sharps waste disposal whilst reducing carbon emissions by up to 87%.

Do clearly label waste containers

Mark containers with their contents, hazard symbols and the date using a permanent marker. Proper labelling ensures waste is easily identifiable, handled safely and disposed of in line with hazardous waste regulations.

Do store waste in a secure, designated area

Keep waste in a controlled, clean and secure location to prevent unauthorised access, reduce spill risks and maintain a safe working environment.

Do contact the experts if you're unsure!

Grundon's expert in-house team is available to provide waste management advice, suggest improvements and educate staff to ensure your operation is compliant. This includes dedicated training sessions and on-site audits, free of charge. By working with you, we can prevent the overclassification of your laboratory waste and reduce the carbon impact associated with its disposal.



✗ DON'TS

Don't pour waste down the drain

Liquid laboratory waste, such as solvents, acids, alkalis, aqueous wastes and expired lab chemicals, should never be disposed of by pouring down the drain. This can cause environmental harm and pollution. Grundon offers a dedicated chemical waste collection service. Our Chem-Pack chemists attend your site and work with you to ensure proper segregation, packing and compliant disposal of all your lab chemicals.

Don't mix different waste streams

Mixing certain waste streams can trigger hazardous reactions, complicate disposal and put handlers at risk. If you are unsure, contact Grundon's hazardous waste team for advice.

Don't overfill containers

Seal and replace containers before they reach full capacity. Containers should generally be no more than 75-90% full to prevent spills, exposure or injury.

Don't dispose of sharps or broken glass in regular bins

Needles, glass and other sharp objects must be placed in approved sharps containers to prevent cuts, puncture injuries and exposure to hazardous materials.



Knowing what to do with your laboratory waste is important to keep everyone safe and ensure your business remains compliant.

For more information on how to properly dispose of your clinical or hazardous waste in a laboratory setting

Contact our expert team at

 clinical@grundon.com

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