

# **Waste Generation Policy**

## **PVF 2006**

**Hubbard Brook Research Foundation**

**Pleasant View Farm**

**25 Dobson Hill Road**

**Thornton, NH, 03223**

**[www.hubbardbrook.org](http://www.hubbardbrook.org)**

In the past, Pleasant View Farm has been designated as a “small quantity generator” by the State of New Hampshire. This allowed us to have less than 220 lbs. of waste on site at any given time, provided safe storage and handling practices are met. We have deactivated this status, however, and we are currently not prepared to generate hazardous wastes at all. We can reactivate our generator status at any time, but will need a specific request from a PI at the start of the season to do so. Otherwise, no hazardous wastes are to be generated at Pleasant View Farm at this time. The procedures for handling non-hazardous wastes are outlined below.

HBRF will have all lab waste removed, at the generating PI’s expense, every fall.

### **Your Responsibilities**

You are responsible for all waste that you generate at, as well as all lab chemicals you bring to, the Henrietta K. Towers lab. HBRF will arrange for chemical disposal, but the generating PI is financially responsible for any expense incurred. Please contact the lab manager if you have any questions.

If you bring or order any chemicals during your lab stay, be prepared to have them removed as waste when you leave. We do not recommend you transport any chemicals or waste in your car or any company vehicle. The transportation of hazardous materials is subject to regulation of your host institution and the Department of Transportation. It is your responsibility to

check with your institution's Environmental Health and Safety department for advice and guidance on proper transport methods. When you leave the facility for the season, you must present a list of all chemicals, solutions, and other waste left behind to the facilities manager prior to departure. The facilities manager will dispose of all materials left and provide your principal investigator with a waste removal bill.

As previously stated, we are not prepared store chemicals over the winter months. However, in special cases when a returning PI specially requests it, unused lab chemicals may be stored over winter. This does not apply to any waste chemicals. WASTE CHEMICALS WILL BE HAULED AT THE PI'S EXPENSE AFTER EACH FALL CHEMICAL INVENTORY.

### **Chemical arrivals**

When any new chemical enters the lab, there is a strict procedure that must be followed before that chemical is used. The container must be placed in the facilities manager's office until the following are completed:

1. An MSDS sheet for the chemical is printed out from the computer, the important safety items highlighted, and placed in the MSDS notebook located outside the room in which the chemical will be stored and used.
2. A color-coded hazard label is filled out and placed on the chemical container.
3. The facilities manager enters the chemical in the year's chemical inventory spreadsheet on the computer.

4. The nature of the chemical, it's intended use at the lab, the waste products that will be generated, and the disposal considerations of those wastes and unused portions of the chemical are all discussed with the facilities manager. This is also covered in the pre-season research agenda form.
5. All containers are labeled with:
  - Contents
  - PI Name
  - Users Name
  - Date (arrived in lab)
  - Hazards (color coded label)
  - Color-coded storage label

The above labeling requirements also apply to every new container created in the lab (not just the new ones arriving).

EACH CONTAINER OF CHEMICALS IN THE LAB MUST BE LABELED ACCORDING TO #2 AND #5, ABOVE.

### **Waste Removal Fees**

It is very expensive to have waste hauled from Pleasant View. Our costs are currently about \$350 per 5 gallon pail of waste, plus transportation costs. This means that you should budget about \$400 for each 5 gallon container of each separate waste stream (compatible wastes) which your lab group produces at Pleasant View. It is important to remember that each primary container of waste is placed inside the 5 gallon pail (wastes are not just

dumped together in the pail, their containers are placed inside the pail). This means each pail holds significantly less than 5 gallons.

In practice, sometimes it will be possible to share space in a pail with another PI's waste. In that case costs will be divided accordingly. Likewise, you will be charged for an entire 5 gallon pail even if it only holds 100ml of your waste.

### **It is the Law!**

Despite the cost, all hazardous chemicals must be disposed of in this manner. All liquid chemicals (except the four which are allowed down the drain, see below), hazardous and non-hazardous, must be disposed of in this manner. In some cases, non-hazardous solids may be disposed of in the dumpster, but this must be discussed with the facilities manager ahead of time.

### **The Drain Policy**

Pleasant View has a septic system for its wastewater. This means that everything that goes down our drain enters the soils and eventually the groundwater. Please consider this and be extra-vigilant in ensuring that the drain policy is obeyed.

The NH Department of Environmental Services requires notification of any non-domestic groundwater discharges (in our case, the lab sinks are non-domestic). There are two levels of regulation within the DES, simple

registration for non-regulated substances, and a more complicated permit for regulated substances. We have registered with them for the discharge of 4 substances, and these are **the only substances that can be disposed of down the drains** of the lab. These are:

neutralized acid (HCl) from acid-washing

neutralized NaOH

KCl

DEA media used in Peter Groffman's lab.

KCl is actually regulated, but our anticipated discharge volume is small enough to allow us to discharge it. If the volume discharged increases substantially, we will need to review our discharge with the DES.

If any lab group wants permission to discharge anything other than the 4 substances listed, or wants to deviate substantially from the anticipated discharge schedule, they must first discuss the matter with the facilities manager, who will discuss the matter with the DES before granting permission.

## Emergency Information

<b>Title</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Phone #</b>
Facilities Manager	Geoff Wilson	603-726-8911 (work) 603-745-3562 (home)
HBRF Director	David Sleeper	603-653-0390 (work)
Emergency		911
Fire Department		603-524-1545 911 for emergencies only
Police Department		603-726-4222 911 for emergencies only