



Safety Committee Guidelines

POLLUTION PREVENTION PLAN

SAFETY COMMITTEE GUIDELINES FOR POLLUTION PREVENTION

As a hazardous waste generator and as part of the university's certification to dispose of hazardous waste, all members of the university who generate hazardous waste must follow this protocol:

1. Continuously work toward reducing the volume of waste generated in the laboratory. This can be accomplished by using microscale procedures, reusing chemicals whenever possible, and minimizing bulk purchases which might result in a chemical surplus (**only purchase quantities which will be consumed within three months of the purchase date**).
2. Continuously work toward reducing the toxicity of the waste generated in the laboratory. This can be accomplished by replacing toxic substances with less toxic; for example, replacing mercury thermometers with ethanol or digital thermometers.

Bulk purchasing of chemicals and off-site storage:

If you need to purchase a large quantity of chemicals which will not be consumed within three months, you must make arrangements with the vendor to store the chemicals at the warehouse and have the chemicals delivered as needed. For example, Fisher Scientific has agreed to store bulk chemical purchases with the condition that the chemicals are used within a specified timeframe; they will also arrange either scheduled deliveries or deliveries upon notification. To make these arrangements, simply contact the current Fisher Scientific Sales Representative for Tufts University.

For more information, refer to:

- *Less is Better: Laboratory Chemical Management for Waste Reduction*, published by the ACS, 1996.
- Environmental Health & Safety Newsletter, October 1996, *How to Save Money and Time with Chemical Management*, by Keith Kidd, page 2-3.