Recycle Plastic Pipette Tip Boxes and Glass Reagent Bottles

Plastic pipette tip boxes and empty glass reagent bottles can be recycled when certain criteria are met. Follow the steps below to maintain the integrity of the recycling program.

**Plastic pipette tip boxes**

Place empty, uncontaminated plastic pipette tip boxes with the #5 recycling symbol in the blue recycling dumpsters at loading docks.

**Glass reagent bottles**

Recycle a glass reagent bottle only when it meets *both* criteria below:

1. **It did not contain extremely hazardous waste.**
   Confirm the bottle did not contain “extremely hazardous waste” by checking the extremely hazardous waste list on Blink: [http://www-ehs.ucsd.edu/hazwaste/Blink_Haz_Waste_list.htm](http://www-ehs.ucsd.edu/hazwaste/Blink_Haz_Waste_list.htm). If it contained any chemical on the list, the bottle must be collected for disposal by EH&S as hazardous waste. Do not recycle it.

2. **It qualifies as empty.**
   Confirm the bottle is empty. An empty container is one that no liquid can drain from when it’s tilted in any direction, has no hazardous material that can feasibly be removed from it, and no encrusted material on the container wall. If the bottle does not qualify as empty and cannot be emptied into a compatible hazardous waste receptacle, it must be collected for disposal by EH&S as hazardous waste. Do not recycle it.
Who Needs Dosimetry?

Send both the User Enrollment and Dosimetry Request forms by e-mail or by fax to Radiation Safety at ehsrad@ucsd.edu or (858) 822-7763.

See ‘How to Add, Cancel, or Replace Radiation Dosimetry Badges’ at http://blink.ucsd.edu/safety/research-lab/radiation/monitoring/dosimetry.html for forms and dosimetry user guidelines.

Research Assistance Program

EH&S Research Assistance Program (RAP) specialists assist UC San Diego researchers with their chemical, radiation, and biological laboratory safety needs. Specialists are assigned by building.

- Find out who the RAP contact is for your building: http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/rap

The Research Assistance Program unifies support and auditing services into one efficient group. Concentrating on specific buildings enables RAP specialists to understand the unique needs of each facility and research area.

Laboratory Safety Audits

RAP specialists audit labs for safety and compliance twice per year. Audit results help both researchers and EH&S identify and correct problems to maintain a safe work area and ensure compliance with regulations.

RAP audit and consultation services cover most labs. Certain labs and other high-hazard areas are also audited by additional EH&S divisions when any of the following are present:

- Biosafety containment levels greater than BL-2+
- High activity or large quantities of radioactive materials
- Class 3b or 4 lasers or laser systems
- Controlled substances

The audit scoring system assigns 1, 4, or 16 points to violations, depending on severity. Points double for repeat violations. The audit score is the total number of violation points. A laboratory with three 4-point violations would receive a score of 12 points. The goal for all laboratories is zero points.

Principal investigators are responsible for:

- Responding in writing within 10 working days of receiving an EH&S audit report, describing actions taken to correct violations noted during the inspection
- Using the Lab Audit Checklist (e-mailed to the lab in the month it’s due) to conduct a self-audit between regularly scheduled EH&S inspections

Recycle Glass Reagent Bottles

How to recycle qualifying glass reagent bottles:

- Cross out the labels on the container, but don’t obliterate the original product label (Recycling personnel may need to know what it once held).
- Remove the lid and place the bottle in the blue recycling dumpster located at your building’s loading dock.

Questions? Contact the Research Assistance Program specialist assigned to your building: http://blink.ucsd.edu/go/rap.