

## UNKNOWN CHEMICAL WASTES

Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) will not remove any waste for disposal unless it is properly identified on the hazardous waste container. Before submitting an online waste pickup request, the responsible person or department must collect all relevant information about the container's contents.

Identifying and disposing of unknown chemicals is costly, time-consuming, and hazardous. If no information can be obtained about the unknown contents, the associated analytical costs will be charged to the generator's department. While EH&S staff can offer consultation on the identification process, the generator must provide as much background information as possible.



The following guidelines can help prevent the creation of unknown wastes:

- Ensure that every container holding chemicals, including waste containers, is properly labeled. This applies to all types of containers, such as secondary containers, beakers, test tubes, wash bottles, and others.
- Do not use formulas, abbreviations, or chemical structures on chemical and waste labels. Containers must be identified with the chemical names of the contents. This is a mandatory requirement for all chemicals at CSN.
- Never store chemical containers where they might be exposed to the elements. Containers with deteriorating or peeling labels should be promptly relabeled.
- Avoid leaving waste containers under a fume hood for extended periods. If a container isn't full but no additional waste is expected soon, submit an online waste pickup request to EH&S.

CSN personnel in possession of unknown wastes should make every effort, including contacting departed faculty or staff if necessary to determine a container's contents. Use any existing knowledge about the waste and processes to rule out specific classes of hazards. If chemical wastes still cannot be identified, label the container "Unknown Contents" and submit an online waste pickup request to EH&S.



To dispose of unknown chemicals, please submit an online pickup request using the EH&S Chemical/Bio Waste Pickup Request form available at: <https://csn.campusoptics.com/hw/chemical-bio-waste-pick-up-request-form>. Please contact EH&S at 702-651-7445 or [ehs@csn.edu](mailto:ehs@csn.edu) if you have any questions.