

URANIUM WASTE



Read below for information about safe packaging, labeling and disposing of uranium and thorium compounds.

DESCRIPTION

Uranium waste consists of solids and liquids contaminated with uranium and thorium compounds. Examples include uranyl acetate, uranyl nitrate, uranyl formate and thorium nitrate.



STORE

Solids

For contaminated solids, designate an appropriate sized container in a secure area (e.g., back of a fume hood in a locked lab). Label the container with a "Caution Radioactive Material" sticker.

Liquids

Store contaminated liquids in an appropriate strong plastic container in secondary containment. Keep the waste container close to your work area to minimize chance of spilling. When not working, place waste in a posted and secure storage area. Liquid waste containers must always be properly labelled, and securely closed when not in use.

LABEL

Ensure container is properly labelled with information about the uranium or thorium compound, concentrations and a "Caution Radioactive Materials" sticker.

DISPOSE

Uranyl acetate and similar compounds are generally licensed, however any liquid or solid waste must be disposed of as radiological waste.

Due to toxicity element of most Uranium and Thorium compounds, liquid waste may be designated as Mixed Waste. Labs planning or concerned about generating uranium waste must consult with Radiation Safety for disposal pricing, guidelines and alternative options.

Uranium and thorium solid waste, powders or crystals will be collected by Radiation Safety for disposal.

To arrange a pick-up of uranium waste, complete a [Radioactive Waste Collection Request](#).



Please contact EH&S Radiation Safety at 206.543.0463 or radsaf@uw.edu for more information.