



# GEL WASTE DISPOSAL GUIDELINES



## Agarose Gels Containing Ethidium Bromide

Can be collected into a sealed plastic bag/container then discarded into an infectious waste box or bagged and labeled for chemical waste disposal

## Acrylamide Gels

- Lab made gels must be bagged, labeled for and disposed of through the chemical waste program.
- Pre-cast commercially generated and purchased Acrylamide gels may be discarded into an infectious waste box or through the chemical waste program.

## Acrylamide and Ethidium Bromide Waste Reagents

Must be labeled for and disposed of through the chemical waste program

## Liquid Ethidium Bromide or Acrylamide

Must be placed into a container and labeled for chemical waste disposal

## Buffers

- Uncontaminated buffers can be poured down the drain with copious amounts of water
- If used as a running solution with Ethidium Bromide, run the solution through an Ethidium Bromide filter first. Place used filters in the infectious waste box
- If used as a running solution with Acrylamide gels, managed as non-corrosive aqueous chemical waste.
- Buffers that can be poured down the drain include: Phosphate buffers, EDTA and SDS. Contact EHS regarding other buffers.

## Staining and De-staining Solutions

Must be managed as non-corrosive aqueous chemical waste

**DO NOT discard any Gels into the regular trash.**

**DO NOT discard Ethidium Bromide or Acrylamide liquid waste down the drain.**

Don't second guess the process!  
If you have a question, call EHS at 831-8475  
Practice Good Safety Habits!