



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Department of Environmental Health and Safety is responsible for ensuring regulatory compliance in the handling and disposal of unwanted hazardous materials on the MU campus. We have the personnel, equipment, and expertise to handle the materials, and contracts with responsible vendors for proper disposal off-site.

All members of the university community – faculty, staff and students – share in this responsibility. It is only with your assistance that we can continue to protect the environment of the campus in which we work and live.

Since waste disposal is a very expensive process, we ask that you help reduce the amount of unwanted materials generated. Do not put your non-hazardous trash in any of our containers; and where possible, minimize the amounts of hazardous materials used in the creative processes.

If you need assistance, please contact Environmental Health and Safety at 882-3736. We can help:

- ◆ determine how a material must be handled
- ◆ provide waste containers
- ◆ provide Material Safety Data Sheets
- ◆ provide training

or answer other questions about hazardous materials that may arise.



**Environmental Health and Safety
Hazardous Material Services
Resource Recovery Center
1710 E. Campus Loop
Columbia, Missouri 65211
(573) 882-3736
hazmat@missouri.edu
ehs.missouri.edu**

If you have any special needs, as addressed by the Americans with Disabilities Act, requiring the publication in an alternative format, please contact Environmental Health and Safety at (573) 882-7018.

Environmental Compliance in the Art Department



**A guide to management of
hazardous materials**

Environmental Protection Agency

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has clear definitions regarding hazardous wastes. Materials destined for disposal that are ignitable, corrosive, reactive and/or toxic are subject to strict regulations. If a material meets the EPA definition of one of these characteristics, then federal and/or state regulations dictate the methods for proper handling and disposal.

Because MU is a large quantity generator of hazardous wastes, the Environmental Protection Agency inspects us regularly to verify that federal guidelines are complied with.



In recent years, the EPA has inspected Art Department facilities during their annual campus reviews. They are well versed on the processes used in art classes, and will closely monitor our efforts to properly handle the wastes generated in these classes.

Used Material Disposal

Before discarding any material used in your art classes, please consider the environmental impact this may have on the City of Columbia landfill or wastewater treatment system.



Some products now used in the Fine Arts Department carry the "Approved Products Seal of the Art and Craft Materials Institute" (ACMI) and are certified as "non-toxic" by them. However, our review of these products indicates that some contain toxic constituents (e.g., heavy metals such as barium, cadmium, lead, and selenium) in concentrations greater than the regulatory levels set by the EPA.

Although manufacturers, suppliers, or other sources may provide disposal guidelines for their products, Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) must make the final decision (based on EPA regulations) on what is, or is not, a regulated hazardous waste.

Student Responsibilities

Every department provides unique opportunities and challenges, and the Art Department is no exception. The following guidelines will address many issues often encountered when using hazardous materials in art studios.

1. New or reusable hazardous materials must be stored in a container of a material type compatible with the chemical nature of the contents. The container must be kept securely closed when not in use.
2. Label all containers of good material with an NFPA label showing the name of material stored, hazard communication information, section, and student name. For example:



3. Do not add unwanted materials to the waste collection containers unless they are already listed on the yellow Hazardous Materials Label (HML). If not listed, ask your instructor for disposal instructions.
4. No used materials may be poured down the drain or placed in trash unless you have received permission to do so from your instructor (acting on written authorization by MU-Environmental Health and Safety).
5. Do not store any hazardous materials in your hallway locker.

If you have questions about the proper disposal of any substance, please contact EHS Hazardous Material Services at 882-3736.