

ETHIDIUM BROMIDE WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR LABS

The following document is the new procedure for handling Ethidium Bromide at the University of Rhode Island. If you have any questions, please contact Environmental Health & Safety.

Waste Stream	Description	Waste Management Practices
Buffer Solutions	Typically contain very small concentrations of ethidium bromide (less than 0.01% by wt.)	<p><u>Do not pour down drain.</u> Store waste containers in secondary containment, closed when not in use and labeled with a Non-Hazardous Waste label from EH&S or downloaded from EH&S page. Store containers in hazardous waste accumulation area.</p>
Gels	Typically contain small amounts of ethidium bromide.	<p>Collect in waste containers.</p> <p>Store waste containers in secondary containment, closed when not in use and labeled with a Hazardous Waste label from EH&S or downloaded from EH&S page. Store containers in SAA.</p> <p>Complete an online form for hazardous waste pickup when the container is full: https://web.uri.edu/ehs/online-pickup</p>
Stock Solutions	Typically contain relatively higher concentrations of ethidium bromide (~1% by wt.)	<p>Collect in waste containers.</p> <p>Store waste containers in secondary containment, closed when not in use and labeled with a Hazardous Waste label from EH&S or downloaded from EH&S page. Store containers in SAA.</p> <p>Complete an online form for hazardous waste pickup when the container is full: https://web.uri.edu/ehs/online-pickup</p>
Crystals and Powders	Typically concentrated or pure ethidium bromide.	<p>Collect in waste containers.</p> <p>Store waste containers in secondary containment, closed when not in use and labeled with a Hazardous Waste label from EH&S or downloaded from EH&S page. Store containers in SAA.</p> <p>Complete an online form for hazardous waste pickup when the container is full: https://web.uri.edu/ehs/online-pickup</p>
Contaminated Spill Cleanup Debris	Includes ethidium bromide contaminated debris (spill pads)	<p>Collect waste in CLEAR 4mm plastic bags. Double bag if necessary. Store bags in SAA.</p> <p>Bags must remain closed when not in use and labeled with a Hazardous Waste label from EH&S or downloaded from EH&S page.</p> <p>Complete an online form for hazardous waste pickup when the container is full: https://web.uri.edu/ehs/online-pickup</p>
Other Contaminated Material	Includes ethidium bromide contaminated gloves, paper towels and tips	Place material that is minimally contaminated with ethidium bromide should be placed in a double lined biohazardous waste box.