



Sewer System Disposal of Radioactive Material (Sink Disposal)

Disposal Criteria

Users are allowed to utilize the sewer (e.g., sinks) for disposal of limited quantities of liquid radioactive wastes, such as biologically active liquid wastes, excreta from experimental animals, and wash water from animal cages, laboratory glassware, etc., provided ALL of the following criteria are met:

1. The liquid waste is readily soluble or dispersible in water.
2. The liquid waste contains no toxic or hazardous substances other than radioactivity.
3. The total activity released *in any one week* by any permit holder is less than 0.1 millicurie (< 0.1 mCi/week) of all radionuclides combined.
4. The release is recorded on Form RPR 13C, "Radioisotope Disposition Record." (Form RPR 13D, "Radioisotope Disposal Log," can be used for tracking purposes prior to recording on Form 13C).
5. The sink used has been approved by Radiation Safety for such use, and is marked with a "CAUTION: RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL" label on the drain trap and at the surface of the sink.

Sinks are not intended for routine disposal of bulk radioactive liquids, such as liquid scintillation media; contact Radiation Safety for disposal of such wastes.

Patient Excreta

Excreta from patients administered radionuclides for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes is not subject to the criteria above, and may be released directly to the sanitary sewer system regardless of total activity or concentration.

Special Permissions/Exceptions

Under certain circumstances, such as waste water generated from washing of contaminated persons or equipment, sewer disposal of liquid waste of more than 0.1 mCi per week may be performed provided the Radiation Safety Officer is consulted prior to the release and provides specific authorization.

Contact Us

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