

# Unknown Chemicals

Audience:	University of Connecticut Laboratories
Campus Covered:	All
EHS Contact:	Denis Shannon 6-3613
Reg. Citations:	University of Connecticut Policy
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Faculty and staff must make every effort to provide an accurate description of all unknown chemicals. Unidentified chemicals present serious problems for the University. Without a description, chemicals can neither be handled nor disposed of in a safe manner. Disposal companies will not accept chemical waste without an analysis.

The Department of Environmental Health & Safety offers assistance in investigating the identity of unknown chemicals; however, any information provided by individuals wishing to dispose of unknowns will greatly aid investigation and identification. Whether or not a chemical is organic or inorganic is an example of information which is very useful to the Department of Environmental Health & Safety.

Please call the Department of Environmental Health & Safety upon discovery of an unknown chemical. The problem presented by unknown chemicals can be reduced if lab personnel are thorough in maintaining labels on chemical containers. Periodic review of chemical stock, and careful recordkeeping will lessen the chance of discovering containers with missing labels.