The Environmental Health and Radiation Safety Department (EHRS) manages all facets of radioactive waste disposal at Temple University and Temple Health System.

### Requirements for radioactive waste generators

- Restrict access to any radioactive material including waste to only authorized personnel.
- Only EHRS personnel are authorized to remove radioactive material including waste from labs.
- Unauthorized or accidental removal of the radioactive material (including waste) must be reported to EHRS immediately.
- Radioactive waste must be segregated by radioisotope and physical form. For example:
  - Separately collect P-32 dry waste and H-3 dry waste.
  - Separately collect P-32 dry waste, P-32 liquid waste, and P-32 sharp waste.
- Minimize the volume and activity of radioactive waste.
- Properly store and label radioactive waste by including PI’s name, date, lab location, isotope, and activity.
- Submit a Radioactive Waste Collection Request online through the EHRS web page.

### General precaution for radioactive waste handling

- Maintain lab-specific procedures for waste accumulation and disposal by trained and authorized lab personnel.
- To prevent a spill, fill the waste bag or container up to 75% of its capacity.
- Minimize radiation exposure from radioactive waste by placing waste containers as far away from personnel as possible.
- Further minimize radiation exposure from radioactive waste by using a plexiglass shielding for high-energy beta emitting waste (i.e., P-32) or a lead shielding for gamma emitting waste (i.e., I-125).
- Keep a log of activity and date when the waste is deposited into the container.
- Use smaller bench top waste receptacles as needed, i.e., a radioactive sharp container.

### Quick Take

- Minimize the volume and activity of radioactive waste.
- Properly store and label radioactive waste.
- Submit a Radioactive Waste Collection Request online through the EHRS web page.