



ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH & SAFETY

Hazardous Material Fact Sheet

Pressurized Container/Compressed Gas Cylinder Disposal

Compressed gas cylinders are pressurized containers used to store gases at or above atmospheric pressure. Compressed gas cylinders are regulated by the EPA and DOT so it is important that they are properly disposed. Please follow these guidelines for proper disposal of each type of compressed gas cylinder.

Full sized compressed gas cylinders

Full size compressed gas cylinders are used in many laboratories and are often rented from companies (e.g. Helget, Matheson) that deliver new cylinders when needed. Please contact these companies for all cylinder exchanges and disposal.

Lecture bottle sized compressed gas cylinders.

Lecture bottle sized gas cylinders must be disposed of according to the following procedures:

1. Return empty gas cylinders to the manufacturer or distributor from which they were purchased. Arrangements should be made at the time of purchase for return of the cylinders. If the manufacturer does not accept the cylinders for disposal, they should be purchased through another supplier.
2. In the event it is not possible to return the cylinders as specified above, complete a chemical collection tag and contact EHS for pick-up. Disposal cost is high, so be prepared to pay for disposal. Please refer to Hazardous Material Fact Sheet, [Chemical Collection and Disposal](#), for guidance on submission for chemical pick-up.

Disposable propane and butane containers

Empty disposable propane and butane bottles can be disposed in the regular garbage provided they are labeled "empty" and depressurized. Any bottles not empty must be properly tagged to be picked up by EHS personnel for proper disposal.

Aerosol can disposal

Please refer to Hazardous Materials Fact Sheet, [Aerosol Can Disposal](#).

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