



**ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH & SAFETY**

Sanitary Sewer Disposal Fact Sheet

(Revised 2/2026)

(For assistance, please contact EHS at (402) 559-6356 (UNMC) or (402) 554-3596 (UNO) or visit our web sites at <https://www.unmc.edu/ehs/> or unomaha.edu/ehs/.

The following classes of chemicals are PROHIBITED from sanitary sewer disposal:

- Any flammable liquids with a flashpoint less than 140°F – including but not limited to any quantity of gasoline, kerosene, naphtha, benzene, toluene, xylene, fuel oil, ethers, ketones, aldehydes, chlorates, perchlorates, bromates, carbides, hydrides and sulfides
- Explosive chemicals
- Any Liquids, Solids or Gases that pose a fire hazard alone or can potentially interact with other chemicals in the sewer and become a fire or explosion hazard
- Solutions outside the pH range of 6.5 to 9.5. Labs may neutralize acids and bases to a pH within this range and then drain dispose, provided there are no prohibited items in the solution
- Halogenated hydrocarbons and aqueous mixtures containing halogenated hydrocarbons (including but not limited to: bromodichloromethane, chloroform, chloromethane, dibromochloromethane, methylene chloride, tetrachloroethene)
- Insoluble materials
- Mercury Metal and mercury compounds such as Thimerosal, Mercuric Chloride, etc.
- Water reactive materials (including but not limited to aluminum alkyls, barium, lithium, potassium, sodium, sodium borohydride, zinc powder or zinc dust)
- Infectious substances (Category A, B cultures)
- Photographic Chemicals (including used fixer solutions)
- Developer solutions containing Hydroquinone or heavy metals such as Barium or Selenium
- Any solids or viscous substances capable of causing obstruction to the flow of sewers
- Oil
Any solution alone or by interaction with waste that can cause a noxious or malodorous gas (such as: Hydrogen Sulfide, Sulfur Dioxide, Nitrous Oxide, Mercaptans) that can be hazardous individually or by reaction with other components in the sewer
- Rinsate from the acutely toxic P listed wastes (e.g., sodium azide)
- Carcinogens or those as identified by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) as possible or probable carcinogens
- Mutagens or Teratogens, such as Ethidium bromide
- Ethidium bromide solutions – unless specifically authorized in writing by EHS

Adapted (with permission) from UNL Environmental Health & Safety, 6/17)

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Acceptable Chemicals for Drain Disposal

The following generalized list identifies chemicals that can be disposed of down the drain, providing the solution does not contain materials otherwise prohibited.

- Aqueous solutions such as salts and buffer solutions within the 6.5 to 9.5 pH range.
- Chemicals that are water soluble and are non-hazardous by way of definition
- Naturally occurring Amino Acids and Salts
- Enzymes
- Sugars
- Proteins
- Acids and bases that have been neutralized and fall within the 6.5 to 9.5 pH range.
- Biological liquids that have been treated with disinfectant or autoclaved.

This following list includes chemicals of limited quantity that may be disposed in the sanitary sewer. Waste materials must not interfere with wastewater treatment or pose a hazard to the public, water treatment employees or the environment.

The total quantity per day should not exceed five (5) gallons per laboratory.

Waste must be flushed with at least a five-fold excess of water in the laboratory.

For technical assistance, please call EHS prior to disposal.

Further Instructions	Chemical – Liquids Only
None	N-Acetyl-D-glucosamine
None	Actin
Dilute 10:1	Adenosine
None	Agar
None	Agar, Bacto
None	Agarose
None	Albumin
None	Alconox
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Alginate Acid
Dilute 10:1	Aluminum Silicate
None	Amino Acid
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Aminoacetic Acid
Dilute 10:1	Ammonium Lactate
None	Amylopectin
Dilute 10:1	Arabinose
None	Arginine HCl
None	L-Arginine HCL
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Ascorbic Acid
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	L-Ascorbic Acid

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Further Instructions	Chemical – Liquids Only
None	Asparagine HCl
None	L-Aspartic Acid
None	Bacto Agar
None	Bacto Yeast Extract
None	Bacto-Lactose Broth
None	Bacto-Nutrient Broth
None	Bacto-Peptone
None	Bacto-Tryptone
None	Beef Extract
None	Bees Wax (if solubilized)
Dilute 10:1	Bentonite
None	Bleach
None	Calcium Acetate
Dilute 10:1	Calcium Borate
Must be neutralized	Calcium Carbonate
None	Calcium Caseinate
Dilute 10:1	Calcium Chloride
None	Calcium Citrate
Dilute 10:1	Calcium Fluoride
None	Calcium Gluconate
None	Calcium Glycerophosphate
None	Calcium iodide
None	Calcium Lactate
None	Calcium Oxide
None	Calcium Pantothenate
None	Calcium Phosphate
None	Calibrating Buffer pH 10.0
None	Calibrating Buffer pH 4.0
None	Calibrating Buffer pH 7.0
None	Carnitine HCl
None	Carotene
None	Casein
None	Celite
None	Cellulose
None	Cellulose Phosphate
None	Chlorophyll
None	Chlorox Bleach (5% sodium hypochlorite)
None	Choline Chloride
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Citric Acid
None	Coenzyme A
None	Coenzyme Q10
None	Coenzyme Qo

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Further Instructions	Chemical – Liquids Only
None	Collagen
None	Corn Dextrin (Liquid)
None	Corn Oil
None	Corticotropin
None	Creatinine
None	L-Cystine
None	Deoxyribonuclease
None	Dextran
None	Dextrin
None	Dextrose
None	Dextrose, Anhydrous
May be disposed ONLY at manufacturer's daily use concentrations according to label instructions. Must be neutralized.	Disinfectants Containing "Quaternary Ammonium" Compounds (i.e., Lysol IC, Coverage Plus, 409, BDD)
May be disposed ONLY at manufacturer's daily use concentrations according to label instructions. Must be neutralized	Disinfectants Containing "Phenolic" Compounds (i.e., Amphyl, Vesphene II)
May be disposed ONLY at manufacturer's daily use concentrations according to label instructions. Must be neutralized.	Disinfectants Containing "Hydrogen Peroxide/ Peracetic Acid" (i.e., Sporgon)
None	Epsom Salts
Dilute 10:1	Ethanol (less than 24%)
Must be neutralized, Dilute 5:1	Ethylenediamine tetraacetic acid (EDTA)
None	Ferritin
None	Folic Acid
None	Fructose
Dilute 10:1	Fullers Earth
None	Galactose
None	Gelatin
None	Globulin
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Gluconic
None	D(+) Glucose
Dilute 20:1	Glucose Standard Solution
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Glutamic Acid
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	L-Glutamic Acid
None	Glycerin/Glycerol
None	Glycine
None	Glycogen
None	Glycylglycine
None	Guanine

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Further Instructions	Chemical – Liquids Only
None	Gum Arabic
Dilute 10:1	Hemoglobin
None	Heparin
None	L-Histidine
5:1 dilution	Hydrogen Peroxide 3%
None	Inositol
Dilute 10:1	Insulin
None	Ipecac Syrup
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Isoleucine
Dilute 10:1	Kaolin
Dilute 10:1	Keratin
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Lactic Acid
None	Lactose
None	Lanolin
None	Lecithin (Phosphatidylcholine)
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Lithium Carbonate
Dilute 10:1	Lithium Chloride
Dilute 10:1	Litmus
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Magnesium Carbonate
None	Magnesium Citrate
None	Magnesium Lactate
None	Magnesium Phosphate
None	Magnesium Sulfate
None	Malt Extract
None	Maltodextrin
None	Maltose
Dilute 20:1	Mannitol
None	Methyl Cel (Methyl Cellulose)
None	Methyl Histidine
Dilute if Nonfat Dry Milk	Milk, Nonfat Dry
None	Naphthoflavone
None	Niacinamide
Dilute 10:1	Nicotinamide
None	Paraffin
None	Pepsin
None	Phenylalanine
None	Phosphatidyl Choline
Dilute 20:1	Polyethylene Glycol PEG
None	Potassium Acetate
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Potassium Acid Phosphate
None	Potassium Bicarbonate
None	Potassium Bitartrate

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Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Potassium Carbonate
None	Potassium Chloride
None	Potassium Citrate
Dilute 10:1	Potassium Iodide
None	Potassium Phosphate
Dilute 20:1	Potassium Phosphate Dibasic
Dilute 20:1	Potassium Phosphate Monobasic
None	Potassium Pyrophosphate
None	Potassium Sodium Tartrate
None	Potassium Sulfate
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Potassium Sulfite
None	Pumice
Dilute 20:1	Riboflavin
None	Riboflavin-5-Phosphate
Dilute 10:1	Ribonucleic Acid
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Salicylic Acid
None	Sephadex
None	L-Serine
None	Silica Gel
None	Sodium Acetate
None	Sodium Ammonium Phosphate
None	Sodium Bicarbonate
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Sodium Carbonate
None	Sodium Chloride
None	Sodium Citrate
None	Sodium Lactate
Dilute 10:1	Sodium Phosphate
Dilute 20:1	Sodium Phosphate Dibasic Anhydrous
Dilute 20:1	Sodium Phosphate Monobasic Monohydrate
Dilute 20:1	Sodium Phosphate Tribasic
Dilute 20:1	Sodium Potassium Tartrate
None	Sodium Salicylate
Dilute 20:1	Sodium Tartrate
Dilute 10:1	Sodium Thiosulfate
Dilute 10:1	Sodium Trimetaphosphate
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Sodium Tungstate
Dilute 10:1	Sorbitol
Dilute 10:1	Sorbose
None	Starch
Dilute 20:1	Starch Agar
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Strontium Carbonate
None	Sucrose

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Further Instructions	Chemical – Liquids Only
None	Thiamine Hydrochloride
None	Tocopherol
None	Tricalcium Phosphate
None	Trisodium Phosphate
Dilute 20:1	Trypsin (from Bovine pancreas)
Dilute 20:1	Tryptone-Bacto
None	L-Tryptophan
None	L-Tyrosine
None	Uridine
Dilute 20:1	Uridine
None	L-Valine
Must be neutralized, Dilute 10:1	Vanillic Acid
None	Vitamin B12
None	Vitamins
None	Yeast Extract

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