

The University of Maine

DigitalCommons@UMaine

General University of Maine Publications

University of Maine Publications

5-7-2019

Solvent Contaminated Wipers (Rags) Guidance

University of Maine System

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications



Part of the [Higher Education Commons](#), and the [History Commons](#)

Repository Citation

University of Maine System, "Solvent Contaminated Wipers (Rags) Guidance" (2019). *General University of Maine Publications*. 915.

https://digitalcommons.library.umaine.edu/univ_publications/915

This Plan is brought to you for free and open access by DigitalCommons@UMaine. It has been accepted for inclusion in General University of Maine Publications by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@UMaine. For more information, please contact um.library.technical.services@maine.edu.

Solvent Contaminated Wipers (Rags) Guidance

Rag users are required to assess the chemical products used in their areas that come in contact with rags or wipes and explore less toxic alternatives that would not cause rags or wipes to become hazardous waste.

At a minimum, the following alternatives must be explored:

- (1) physical methods to clean including (brushing, vacuuming, and dry wiping),
- (2) alternative non-hazardous chemicals including steam or water, and
- (3) alternative non-F-listed chemicals.

For tasks where it is impractical to eliminate hazardous waste components, contaminated rags must be collected in a closed SAA container labeled with the words "Hazardous Waste", lined with a compatible liner (such as a clear plastic bag). The label must list the date waste rags are first added to the container and all contaminants (or potential contaminants of the rags).

The Following Rags are Hazardous Waste:

Rags which come in contact with any of the following F-listed solvents are hazardous waste and should be eliminated wherever practicable using alternative methods:

acetone	2-ethoxyethanol	2-nitropropane
benzene	ethyl acetate	pyridine
n-butyl alcohol	ethyl benzene	tetrachloroethylene
carbon disulfide	ethyl ether	toluene
carbon tetrachloride	isobutanol	1,1,1-trichloroethane
chlorinated fluorocarbons	methanol	1,1,2-trichloroethane
chlorobenzene	methyl ethyl ketone	trichloroethylene
creosols and cresylic acid	methyl isobutyl ketone	trichlorofluoromethane
cyclohexanone	methylene chloride	1,1,2-trichloro-1,2,2-trifluoroethane
o-dichlorobenzene	nitrobenzene	xylene

Rags that have been used with flammable solvents or corrosive liquids are hazardous wastes if they are saturated (liquid can be squeezed from the rags by ringing or other mechanical means) or if there are any free liquids in the bottom of the container.

Rags used to clean up oils that contain PCBs at or above 50 ppm are hazardous waste.

All spill clean-up materials, including rags or wipes, used to clean up a spill of hazardous materials, must be collected and managed as hazardous waste.

Pick-Up for Disposal

Arrangements should be made for pick-up before containers are full.

- At the Orono campus a completed Request for Chemical Waste Pickup and Disposal may be faxed (581-4085) to UMS Safety Management (SM). Full containers must be removed within 72 hours.
- At other campus locations contact your Facilities Safety Point of Contact to request a pick up.