

Thank you for your part in helping to make Oklahoma school laboratories a safer place to learn.

The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality's top priority is to protect the citizens of Oklahoma.

Improper or deferred disposal of outdated and dangerous chemicals not only pose a threat to students and teachers, but also has the potential to cost the school hundreds of thousands of dollars in cleanup costs if not done properly. Proper management of chemicals is the key to keeping Oklahoma's school laboratories safe. By participating in the School Chemical Disposal Program you have helped in this effort to make school labs safer places to learn.

For any questions about this program, please contact
Oklahoma DEQ's
Site Cleanup Assistance
Program:

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Site Clean-Up Assistance Program

SCHOOL CHEMICAL DISPOSAL PROGRAM



What If My School Needs an Additional Chemical Disposal?

DEQ's School Chemical Disposal Program is a free **one-time** disposal of unused or outdated laboratory chemicals. If your school requires additional disposals, it is the responsibility of the school to cover any costs associated with the removal. A statewide contract exists for routine hazardous waste disposal and can be used for additional chemical disposals at your school. For more information on the statewide hazardous waste contract and how to use this service, please contact the Central Purchasing Division of the Office of Management and Enterprise Services (OMES) at 405-522-0955 or use the link below for their website.

<https://ok.gov/DCS/CentralPurchasing/index.html>

How to Prevent Problems in the Future?

In order to prevent stockpiles of unused chemicals in the future, the DEQ recommends the following:

- Use reduced scale- or small-scale chemistry in classrooms and laboratories.
- Only purchase small quantities of chemicals as needed.
- Keep an up to date chemical inventory at all times.
- Ensure proper storage of all chemicals and keep them locked.
- Ensure chemical containers are in good condition and the label is legible.
- Ensure bottle labels have the chemical name, formula, date of purchase, and expiration date.
- Properly dispose of all expired and excess chemicals. The container may be compromised.
- Delegate the above tasks to only those knowledgeable in chemistry.

For More Information

Much more information and resources for managing school laboratory chemicals can be found at the website below:

<http://www.deq.state.ok.us/LPDnew/pollutionprevention/SchoolChemicals.html>

