Chemical Storage Guidelines (Supplemental Information)

Chemical Waste Storage (including Non-Flammable Chemical Wastes)
The storage and segregation of chemical wastes is to follow the same requirements as the labelling, itemizing contents, storage and segregation of chemicals, as described in the ‘Chemical Storage’ Safety Bulletin in the Laboratory Safety Manual. Chemical waste containers may be used in a different location than the normal storage location for the original chemical container. At the end of the period of usage or the end of the day, whichever is sooner, all chemical containers (including chemical waste containers) are to be returned to their appropriate storage location. Chemical waste containers shall not be stored in fume hoods.

Non-flammable chemical waste containers must be capped when not in use. These wastes must not be stored in fume hoods and not stored in flammables cabinets. Follow the ‘Chemical Storage’ Safety Bulletin in the Laboratory Safety Manual for storage requirements including separation of hazardous chemicals.

Flammable Chemical Wastes
Flammable chemical waste containers (type and size of container detailed below) should not be stored outside of a flammables cabinet. Every time a flammable waste is generated through lab activities, the flammable chemical waste storage container shall be taken out of the flammables cabinet and the waste deposited in the container. The cap shall be put back on the container and the flammable chemical waste storage container shall be put back in the flammables cabinet.

If, during the course of a few hours, the flammable chemical waste container will be used multiple times, then the flammable chemical waste container may remain outside of the flammables cabinet while in use. Flammable chemical waste containers shall never be left outside of a flammables cabinet overnight.

The type and size of container chosen is dependent on how quickly the waste is generated. High volume flammable chemical waste is to be disposed of in an 18 litre Red Liquid Chemical Waste Containers (containing metal spark arrestor; lid is spring loaded to allow for pressure release). Flammable waste chemicals produced in smaller batches over time should go into a 4 litre, or smaller, glass container. Flammable chemical wastes in a 4 litre, or smaller, glass container may be decanted into an 18 litre Red Liquid Chemical Waste Container. Care must be taken such that reactive/incompatible flammable chemical wastes are not combined; this will minimize off-gassing and pressurization of the container.

Solid Wastes
Pyrophoric wastes (after quenching) shall be placed directly in a (sealed metal/glass) container and lid closed.