



Idaho Chemical Roundup Resources for Northern Idaho

The following resources can assist your school in managing and disposing of laboratory chemicals.

State regulations and technical assistance

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

DEQ is the state agency responsible for oversight of federal environmental regulations such as the Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. DEQ can assist schools by:

- ❑ Providing on-site pollution prevention assessments regarding best practices for classrooms.
- ❑ Providing compliance assistance visits to determine compliance with state environmental laws.
- ❑ Providing technical assistance by answering questions about waste management and disposal.

DEQ Coeur d'Alene Regional Office (208) 769-1422 or www.deq.idaho.gov

Idaho Division of Building Safety

Administers safety and health standards for public schools, students, staff, and the public. The Division of Building Safety provides consultation services on safety and health standards and issues and safety training upon request.

Division of Building Safety (208) 334-3950 or <http://dbs.idaho.gov/school/index.html>

State Communications Center

Idaho's State Communications Center coordinates a 24-hour network of local emergency response professionals. The Center coordinates dispatching state resources to hazardous material emergencies. In case of a chemical emergency, such as discovery of an explosive or unstable chemical or an unmanageable chemical spill, call 911 and the State Communications Center.

State Communications Center (800) 632-8000

Inventory/waste disposal¹

The following companies provide hazardous waste management disposal services to southeast Idaho. Some will provide on-site inventory assistance and cost estimates for disposal free of charge. Others can provide an estimate based on your inventory. Packaging and disposal costs will vary depending on chemicals and school location, which can affect transport costs.

Able Clean-up Technologies	(509) 466-5255
Environmental Management Solutions	(208) 895-0326
Emerald Services	(509) 928-6789
Safety Kleen	(208) 928-8353

National programs

U.S. EPA School Chemical Cleanout Campaign

The School Chemical Cleanout Campaign is designed to create a chemically safer school environment in which chemicals are purchased wisely, stored safely, handled by trained personnel, used responsibly, and disposed of properly. <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/osw/conserveschools/index.htm>.

¹ DEQ is providing this list as a public service only and does not certify or recommend any business or organization on the list.

National Microscale Chemistry Center

The National Microscale Chemistry Center (NMC2) was established to promote the use of microscale chemistry as a means of eliminating toxic waste at the source. <http://www.microscale.org/default.asp>.

National Small Scale Chemistry Center

The National Small Scale Chemistry Center provides resources to scale down chemical reagents to volumes and masses 1,000 times smaller than those used in traditional labs by using inexpensive plastic and polymer materials. www.smallscalechemistry.colostate.edu.

Other sites of interest

Lesson plans

Rehab the Lab is a King County Washington program to help local schools clean out their laboratories. Lesson plans for chemical free and less toxic science experiments can be found at: <http://www.govlink.org/hazwaste/schoolyouth/rehab/labs.htm>.

Local Authorities

Lab chemicals may be considered hazardous waste and must be disposed of properly. The best management practice for disposal is to return unused chemicals to the vendor. If schools qualify as a Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG), the next best option is to check with your local city or county to determine if chemicals or chemical wastes could be taken to a household hazardous waste collection if one exists in your city or county. (Contact DEQ for questions about your generator status.) If neither of these options is available, consider disposing of chemicals and chemical wastes using a hazardous waste management company. (Refer to list of companies on front of this fact sheet.)

If schools qualify as a CESQG, some hazardous wastes and chemicals may be disposed of through a landfill with permission of the landfill operator. Many landfills and trash haulers have restrictions banning hazardous wastes, ensure your trash hauler and landfill will accept the waste. Note this is not the best disposal option due to potential water contamination issues.

Northern Idaho Landfills/Transfer Stations

Bonner County Solid Waste	(208) 265-1459
Boundary County Landfill	(208) 267-3812
Kootenai County Solid Waste	(208) 446-1430
Shoshone County Transfer Station	(208) 784-5190

If you are hooked into a municipal wastewater system known as a publicly owned treatment works (POTW), contact your sewer system and/or city to determine if it is allowable for CESQGs to dispose of chemicals or chemical wastes down the drain. Note this is not the preferred disposal method as some wastes can pass through the POTW unchanged and thus pollute the water downstream. If your school uses a septic system, chemicals or chemical wastes cannot be poured down the drain. Contact Panhandle District Health's Environmental Division at (208) 415-5200 to determine if you discharge water to a septic system.

City Contact Numbers

Bonnors Ferry	(208) 267-4380	Post Falls	(208) 777-9857
Clark Fork	(208) 263-8558	Priest River	(208) 448-2123
Coeur D'Alene	(208) 769-2277	Rathdrum	(208) 687-2700
Harrison	(208) 689-3212	Sandpoint	(208) 263-3433
Kellogg	(208) 786-9131	Spirit Lake	(208) 623-2221
Mullan	(208) 744-1515	St. Maries	(208) 245-4102
Osburn	(208) 753-3611	Wallace	(208) 752-1147
Plummer	(208) 686-1641		