



Wastewater Disposal Quick Reference

The following items are **FORBIDDEN** from being put down the drain:

- Gasoline, benzene, naphtha, fuel oil or other flammable or explosive liquids, solids or gases, or any other pollutants that create a fire or explosive hazard in the publicly owned treatment works.
- Discharge of liquid or water vapor that would cause the effluent to have a temperature greater than 150 degrees F at the site boundary.
- Water or waste containing fats, wax, grease or oils of a petroleum or mineral base, in a concentration greater than 100 mg/l.
- Bedding that is improperly shredded or any dimension greater than one half inch.
- Wastewater having a pH lower than 5.0 or higher than 11.5 or otherwise causing corrosive structural damage to sewerage or harm to personnel.
- Stock, or large volumes of undiluted disinfectants (e.g., bleach, Lysol, etc.).
- Machine waste, unless characterized, documented, and approved by your laboratory.

This job aid is a component of the free, on-demand CDC training course “Fundamentals of Laboratory Safety.” Find the course at <https://reach.cdc.gov/training>