

9. Waste Disposal

Proper waste disposal is crucial for environmental safety and human health. The following guidelines outline the safe disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous materials:

9.1 Hazardous Waste Disposal

Hazardous waste includes chemicals, biological waste, and toxic materials. Follow these guidelines:

9.1.1 **Separate Waste Properly:** Categorize waste into flammable, corrosive, toxic, or reactive materials.
9.1.2 **Use Approved Containers:** Store hazardous waste in labeled, leak-proof containers.
9.1.3 **Follow Local Regulations:** Adhere to government rules on hazardous waste disposal.
9.1.4 **Neutralize Chemicals if Possible:** Some chemicals can be neutralized before disposal.
9.1.5 **Contact Licensed Disposal Facilities:** Arrange proper collection and disposal by certified professionals.

Hazardous Waste Management for Aquatic Ecosystem Protection

Holy Child Central Colleges, Inc. (HCCCI) establishes procedures for the proper handling, segregation, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials through its General Laboratory Manual, particularly **Section 9 – Waste Disposal (page 27).** These guidelines serve as part of the institution's efforts to prevent improper waste disposal and minimize the potential release of hazardous substances that could adversely affect surrounding environments, including aquatic ecosystems.

The manual outlines measures for managing hazardous waste, including chemicals, biological waste, and toxic materials. These include proper waste segregation and classification, the use of approved and appropriately labeled leak-proof containers, compliance with applicable government regulations, chemical neutralization when appropriate, and coordination with licensed waste disposal facilities for collection and treatment. These procedures help prevent hazardous substances and potentially harmful biological materials from entering drainage systems, waterways, and other receiving environments.

Through these established waste management procedures, HCCCI promotes responsible laboratory practices and environmental protection by addressing potential sources of chemical and biological contamination. The guidelines contribute to minimizing pollution risks that may alter water quality and negatively affect aquatic organisms and ecosystems. These institutional measures support Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Life Below Water), particularly Indicator 14.5.1, by demonstrating the institution's commitment to preventing harmful environmental impacts through proper hazardous waste management.