



U.S. Waste Industries, Inc.

# **GUIDE TO CHEMICAL LAB PACKING:**

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Ensuring Safety and  
Compliance



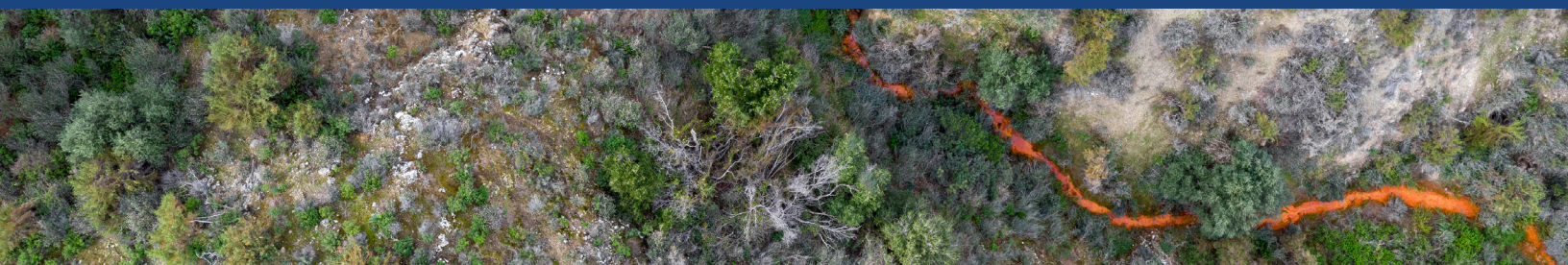
*Operations ranging from small research and development labs to large industrial plants rely on chemical lab packing processes to handle their chemical waste. At U.S. Waste Industries, Inc., we specialize in turnkey solutions for our customers. Our company offers professional lab packing services, including identifying, combining, packing, labeling, transporting, and disposing of your chemical waste.*

*Our team emphasizes safety and regulatory compliance in all of our operations, allowing you to focus on what you do best instead of the logistics tied to chemical packing and disposal. In this eBook, we'll discuss the importance of lab packing, our various services, and how U.S. Waste can support you with efficient, single-source answers to your chemical waste challenges.*

## Why Chemical Lab Packing Matters

Whether during production, processing, or ultimate disposal, it's critical to always handle chemicals with care. Chemical lab packing services help ensure the following:

- ✔ **Safety.** Depending on the types of materials and their handling, chemical substances can be highly volatile. They might present a fire or explosion hazard or even give off harmful fumes that could be detrimental to employee health. Working with an experienced lab packing service provider like U.S. Waste will help you prevent chemical spills, leaks, asset damage, and health concerns.
- ✔ **Environmental responsibility.** Correctly disposing of chemical waste is the responsibility of the business or organization creating it. If you improperly contain or dispose of your chemicals, the materials can leach into the ground or water supplies, release volatile organic compounds (VOCs) into the air, and more. Lab packing services help ensure the prevention of environmental contamination.
- ✔ **Regulatory compliance.** As part of our services, U.S. Waste will provide you with regulatory documentation. Multiple agencies have outlined legal requirements for handling or disposing of chemical waste. For example:
  - The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has standards in place for proper lab packing treatment.
  - The Department of Transportation (DOT) has established regulations outlining the acceptable shipping practices for HAZMAT materials.
  - The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set requirements for chemical handling, container labeling, and more.
- ✔ **Risk mitigation.** Compliant chemical waste handling and disposal procedures do more than just protect your people, your facility, and the environment; they mitigate the risk of hazardous substances and harmful accidents. These services also safeguard you against liability concerns and costly fines. At U.S. Waste, we carry full liability insurance.



## Common Chemical Materials for Lab Packing

Chemical lab packing is applicable for both hazardous and non-hazardous materials. At U.S. Waste, common examples of the chemical types we work with include the following:

- Expired or unused chemicals
- Cleaning solvents
- Compounds (organic or inorganic)
- Reagents
- Oxidizers
- Reactives
- Corrosives
- Flammable or explosive chemicals
- Toxic chemicals
- Radioactive chemicals



# Who Needs Chemical Lab Packing

Diverse industries and facilities can benefit from chemical lab packing. These services are applicable in such settings as:



Schools and educational institutions



Biotech operations



Medical facilities



Manufacturing plants



Pharmaceutical laboratories



Industrial environments



## Chemical Inventory and Identification


Our trained specialists begin the lab packing process with chemical inventory and identification. The U.S. Waste team will handle the following:

- ✔ **Creating a chemical inventory.** One of the first steps to chemical lab packing is taking a detailed inventory of your facility's excess materials or chemical waste. This inventory will cover such things as chemical types and amounts, descriptions, hazard classifications, container types, and more.
- ✔ **Identifying hazards.** Harmful chemicals can be broken down into individual hazard classes, such as corrosive, toxic, or flammable chemicals. It's important to properly label storage containers of such hazardous substances, as well as note them on the project's safety data sheet (SDS).
- ✔ **Sorting materials based on chemical compatibility.** Compatible chemicals, or those that are inert and won't have any adverse reactions when in direct contact with one another, can be combined into DOT-approved containers for storage and transit. However, incompatible chemicals should be segregated to avoid hazardous conditions. Regardless of the chemical(s) being contained, we'll utilize industry-compliant packaging materials.



## Transportation and Disposal

Chemical waste transportation and disposal are additional components of lab packing services. These processes necessitate considerations for such important factors as:

 **DOT regulations.** DOT has requirements for proper chemical packaging and labeling, as well as HAZMAT shipping practices. Transport vehicles themselves require a placard, which is diamond-shaped, color-coded signage indicating the type of waste they're carrying. With HAZMAT substances, the lab pack services provider must also compile a shipping paper with the following information:



Material type and description



Number of packages and chemical quantity



Class of hazard



Provider's certification information



Official shipping name



Emergency contact details



UN ID number



- ✔ **Treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs).** Per the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), the EPA has end-to-end oversight from chemical production to its disposal. The organization puts prohibitions on the disposal, dilution, and storage of these substances. At approved TSDFs, waste disposal comes in the form of incineration (burning waste to eliminate its organic hazardous compounds) or stabilization/immobilization, which binds the waste mass to toxic metals to prevent leaching.
- ✔ **Waste manifests.** Professional waste disposal service providers will complete a manifest of any hazardous waste in the loads they're transporting. Required by the EPA, these shipping documents track the waste materials from their pickup location to their disposal site, proving their chain of custody. These manifests help keep service providers accountable and compliant with industry regulations.

When choosing a transporter for your chemical materials, it's important to look at the provider's qualifications. They should be a licensed hazardous waste transporter with years of experience as well as a good reputation in the industry. Similarly, to select a TSDF, ensure they take your specific kind of waste and have all necessary permits.

At U.S. Waste, we'll take care of coordinating all transportation logistics for your chemicals and ensure secure delivery. We partner with licensed disposal facilities across the nation, where your chemical waste will undergo treatment per EPA regulations before final, environmentally safe disposal.



## Partner With U.S. Waste for Professional Chemical Lab Packing Solutions

Lab packing services are critical to correctly identifying, handling, transporting, and disposing of chemical substances. Partnering with a trusted service provider can be the difference between safe, compliant operations and facing regulatory fines and negative environmental impacts.

At U.S. Waste, safety and compliance are at the forefront of our lab packing services. Through our nationwide network of industry professionals, we simultaneously ensure the safety of your employees and facility assets while adhering to all local, state, and federal regulations. Our team has more than 150 years of combined experience in hazardous waste management, giving you ultimate peace of mind that your chemical packing job will be done right.

Interested in learning more about our turnkey chemical lab packing services? [Request a quote](#) from our expert team today.





U.S. Waste Industries, Inc.



## ABOUT US

U.S. Waste Industries is a full-service environmental company. Our group of consultants offers environmental consulting for hazardous waste disposal, remediation, tank cleaning, contaminated soil cleaning, lagoon cleaning, demolition projects, and more. Consultants are on call 24 hours a day and are available for emergency response. We also manage the DOT-approved transportation and disposal of hazardous and non-hazardous waste, providing customers with all required documentation as needed.

[Contact us](#) or [request a quote](#) to discuss your project's needs.

Contact Us



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