Responsibilities of the Departments

Currently, SFASU has a standing contract with SET Environmental Inc for removal and disposal of all hazardous and radioactive wastes. Each department should follow the removal and disposal guidelines of the specific waste that they generate.

The following is required to implement effective radioactive waste management procedures within the laboratory. Specifically, the department shall:

1. Provide adequate radioactive material labeled receptacles for each radioisotope and type of radioactive waste generated.
2. Ensure that radioactive wastes are placed in these assigned receptacles, and are not disposed of as ordinary wastes. You must report any such incidents of improper waste disposal to the Environmental Health, Safety, and Risk Management Department.
3. Maintain written records of the activity of all wastes.
4. Assure that radioactive waste is not allowed to be stockpiled in the lab, either in the designated waste storage area, or in any other areas used for temporary storage.
5. Designate an area of the lab to be used as a waste area using the following guidelines:
   - Located away from heavy traffic or constantly used areas.
   - Large enough to allow for shielding if necessary. High-energy beta and gamma emitters must be stored behind the appropriate shielding material to minimize the external exposure to lab personnel.
   - Allows for containment of liquid waste in the event of a spill or container failure.

As the generator of radioactive waste material, laboratory personnel have firsthand knowledge of waste content. Consequently, laboratory personnel have the full responsibility of handling all requirements and documentation associated with it.

Do not, under any circumstance, place radioactive waste where it might be picked up by housekeeping personnel and be disposed of as ordinary waste in the dumpster. Accidental improper radioactive waste disposal must be reported immediately to the Environmental Health, Safety, and Risk Management Department.