

Checklist for Art Departments

| Items/Processes of Concern | Toxic Metal | Dangerous Waste | Preferred Alternatives and Best Management Practices ¹ |
|----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|--|
| Paints, dyes, glazes | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use a low-content or metal-free, non-hazardous alternative. • Use solvent-free alternatives. • Use water-based coatings with the least amount of volatile organic compounds and hazardous air pollutants possible. • Use leftover product for small pieces or for testing. • Label/store leftover basecoats. Seal container tightly; store upside-down to prevent air from entering. |
| Solvents, paint strippers | | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use non-chlorinated solvents and thinners. • Use methyl alcohol (methanol) for paint stripping. • Use a spray bottle or plunger can to deliver solvents where they are needed. • Segregate solvent wastes, reuse, or dispose as dangerous waste. • Use solvents until they lose their effectiveness, as opposed to when they look dirty. |
| Flammable aerosol products | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use non-flammable aerosol products. • Replace single aerosol with a refillable spray bottle or plunger to deliver product. • Collect empty aerosol cans that contained flammable products and manage as dangerous waste. |
| Cleaning towels or wipes | | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use towels that can be laundered and reused. • Keep used wipes and towels in closed containers and label appropriately. • Reduce the size of the towel or wipe to reduce the amount of solvent used at the same time. • Reuse towels or wipes for repetitive tasks. • Don't dip towels or wipes in open solvent containers. • Limit the amount of solvent available for use each day. • Towels that are not laundered should be managed as the material they were used to absorb. |
| Metal | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use metal alloys that do not contain lead, cadmium, or mercury. • Recycle metal pieces. |
| Jewelry pickling acid | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When pickling use less hazardous citric acid to remove oxides produced from heating/soldering. • Use appropriate-sized pot to reduce chemical usage. • Avoid contamination of bath. • Dispose of spent pickling solution that may contain copper as hazardous waste. |
| Jewelry soldering | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use cadmium-free silver solders or lead-free solders when feasible. • Use borax flux instead of fluoride-based fluxes. • Recycle unusable metal pieces. |

¹ Preferred alternatives are shown in **bold font**.

| Items/Processes of Concern | Toxic Metal | Dangerous Waste | Preferred Alternatives and Best Management Practices ¹ |
|--|-------------|-----------------|---|
| Jewelry plating | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use commercial electroplating rather than cyanide electroplating or electroforming if possible. • Electroplating involves the use of incompatible and reactive materials. Cyanide solutions are incompatible with acids. Cyanide solutions and acids must never be stored near each other. Find out what materials used in the shop are acids and separate those from the cyanide baths. Under no circumstances should the copper plating bath come in contact with the silver or gold baths. |
| Glues, epoxies, adhesives | | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use low or no-solvent adhesives if possible, such as hot melt, heat seal, aqueous-based or polyvinyl alcohol (PVA) adhesives. • Evaluate your gluing operations to determine if too much is being mixed. |
| Graphic/visual art | | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See Photography. |
| Neon | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use non-mercury-argon neon coloring. • Some neon lights contain trace amounts of mercury (usually used in conjunction with argon gas) and should be handled and disposed as Universal Waste. |
| General | | | |
| General Inventory | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Environmentally Preferable Purchasing. • Learn to recognize potentially hazardous products by reviewing Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs) for hazardous substance information. • Properly store hazardous substances. • Review curriculum for potential hazardous substance reductions. |
| All generated waste streams Spilled products Unused and expired products | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use chemical inventory and tracking software to centralize product ordering, improve product tracking, storage requirement, waste management, reduce disposal of expired product, and minimize duplicate orders to prevent unnecessary disposal. • Identify all potential waste streams and establish designation procedures to determine if a hazardous waste or non-hazardous waste. • Implement dangerous waste designation, collection, accumulation, and disposal procedures for all waste streams. See Common Dangerous Waste Compliance Issues. |
| Batteries Fluorescent lamps | X | X | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use rechargeable batteries. • Use LED lamps when appropriate. • Use low-mercury fluorescent lamps. • Implement a battery recycling program and recycle as Universal Waste. • Implement a whole-lamp recycling program and recycle as Universal Waste. • If not recycled as Universal Waste: collect, manage and dispose of as dangerous waste. |
| Other: | | | |

Notes, Comments, Follow-up

Resources

Common Dangerous Waste Compliance Issues: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/P2/schoolsAndLabs/tool/dw_issues.html

Dangerous Waste Basics: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/manage_waste/DangerousWasteBasics.html

Find a Hazardous Waste Service Provider: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/hwsd/index.html>

Labeling of Hazardous Art Materials Act: <http://www.cpsc.gov/cpsc/pub/pubs/5016.htm>

Personal Protective Equipment: http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/hw_labels/hmis_ppe.html

Pollution Prevention for Electroplating and Metal Finishing: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/p2/sectors/platsect1.html>

Treatment by Generator: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/P2/schoolsAndLabs/tool/TBG.html>

Universal Waste Rule for Batteries, WAC 173-303-573(2): <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/98407a.html>

Universal Waste Rule for Lamps, WAC 173-303-573(5): <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/98407c.html>

Universal Waste Rule for Mercury-containing Equipment, WAC 173-303-573(3,4): <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/98407b.html>

Waste Designation: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/hwtr/designation/>