

# Broken Lab Glass Instructions

Broken glass containers are designated to safely dispose of non-contaminated broken glass and are mandatory for all laboratories and spaces utilizing glassware.

Laboratories and spaces are responsible for purchasing broken glass containers from an NSU-approved vendor such as Fisher Scientific, VWR or make one by obtaining a cardboard box or 5 gallon bucket with a secure lid, defacing any markings on the exterior, writing "Broken Glass" on the exterior, and lining the inside with a trash bag.

## Disposing of Broken Glass

- Extreme care must be exercised when handling broken glassware. Before handling the broken glass, always wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (i.e., protective eyewear, gloves, fully covered limbs, close-toed shoes, etc.).
- Broken glass containers are exclusively for the disposal of broken glassware. Do not mix broken glassware with any other material.
- If the broken glassware contained chemicals or hazardous waste, it is considered hazardous waste and must be collected carefully in a puncture-proof container and disposed of as hazardous waste.
- If the broken glassware was not contaminated, then broken glassware must be carefully disposed of in the broken glass container.

## Disposing Of The Broken Glass Container

- The generator is responsible for closing the broken glass containers.
- Do not overfill the broken glass container, only fill 3/4 of the container.
- When it is time to dispose of the broken glass container, carefully seal the bag within the box with tape, following the instructions on the box.
- Close the box and tape all the seams to avoid handling hazards.
- When closed and taped, place with trash for collection by housekeeping staff, or submit a work order for housekeeping to collect.
- The generator may also remove the sealed broken glass container from the laboratory or space themselves and place in the solid waste dumpsters, usually located in the loading docks. Always wear PPE while disposing of broken glass containers.
- Laboratory glassware is often designed to withstand high temperatures making it non-recyclable, therefore, the container is disposed of in a waste dumpster.

## Intact Chemical Containers (non-Pyrex/non-high temp glass)

Chemical glass bottles can be disposed of or recycled after rinsing and defacing the label. For more information, review the "Empty Container" flowchart under the Resources tab on the EHS website. For more information regarding these guidelines, contact the Department of Environmental Health and Safety through email at [EHS@nova.edu](mailto:EHS@nova.edu).