

## **SAFETY NOTICE**

**EPA Notice of Violation** 

Date: February 7, 2018

Category: Hazardous Waste

RMS Contact: Erin Hafner

Contact RMS: Tel: 1-5037

## **EPA Notice of Violation**

On September 12, 2017, representatives from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) inspected the University of Notre Dame campus. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate Notre Dame's compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), specifically the implementation of regulations related to the generation, treatment and storage of hazardous waste.

Based on the inspectors' observations, several laboratories on campus were in violation of EPA Regulations. Hazardous waste containers were not closed during storage and some were not clearly marked with the words "Hazardous Waste". By failing to meet these requirements, the University was also in violation of the Indiana hazardous waste storage permit rule. The EPA did note that the violations were immediately corrected.

Because of the violations, the University of Notre Dame was issued a Notice of Violation (NOV). The EPA did not issue a fine. Please note that the EPA or IDEM may choose to conduct a follow up inspection of laboratories on campus to verify continued compliance. Fines for RCRA violations issued by the EPA or IDEM could be up to \$71,264 per violation per day.

Please remind and require personnel working in laboratories to adhere to the University's <u>Hazardous Waste Procedure</u>, including but not limited to keeping waste containers closed and labeled. Risk Management and Safety can offer assistance to labs with identifying and resolving any safety or environmental issues.

Please contact Erin Hafner (631-7889 or <a href="mailto:ehafner@nd.edu">ehafner@nd.edu</a>) with any questions or concerns.

All safety communications can be found at <a href="https://riskmanagement.nd.edu/communication/safety-communication/">https://riskmanagement.nd.edu/communication/safety-communication/</a>.