

## Chemical Safety - Chemical Containers in Poor Condition

**Adverse consequence(s):** Containers in poor condition can result in leakage of hazardous chemicals. This increases the risk of exposure to hazardous chemicals. "Inherently waste-like chemicals" include expired chemicals, chemicals in deteriorating containers and chemicals that appear to be or are unusable. State inspectors may issue fines or infractions for inherently waste-like chemicals in your laboratory. Do not keep chemicals past their expiration date. Do not keep chemicals that have faded labels, deteriorating containers, leaks, and/or other obvious signs that the chemicals are not being used and are very likely to not be used in the future.

**Corrective action:** All chemical containers must be in good condition with no visible damage or deterioration. Caps must be secure, intact, and without chemical residue. Labels must be intact, and fully legible. Any container found to be leaking, rusted, or forming precipitates must be disposed of immediately as chemical waste. Stored chemicals shall be examined at least annually by the person in charge of the laboratory for replacement, deterioration, and container integrity. Conduct cleanouts when you do your annual chemical inventory update. Itemize chemicals to be removed, and submit the list to EHS for a chemical waste pick-up.

Images below are chemicals recently collected from the Choppin and Life Sciences Buildings.

