

# Disposal Procedures for Zebrafish (*Danio Rerio*) & Other Fish Used in Research at Vanderbilt

At Vanderbilt, all fish used in research should be terminated and collected and disposed of as biohazardous waste at the conclusion of studies. This method of treatment, collection and disposal will assure that live fish do not escape to the surrounding lab environments, which helps prevent cross-contamination in biological research activities. Additionally, fish that are genetically modified (like zebrafish), or those used in conjunction with genetically-modified agents must be managed in such a way as to minimize the release of recombinant DNA into the environment.

## Fish Termination

All fish need to be terminated before final disposal. Follow your approved euthanasia procedures outlined in your IACUC protocol.

## In-lab Waste Collection & Storage

Following euthanasia, strain the fish from their tanks and remove as much water as possible. Place the fish inside a sealable plastic bag marked with a biohazard symbol and store in the freezer.



## Disposal of Fish Waste

VEHS Hazardous Waste services will collect the zebrafish waste.

- There are two VEHS chest freezers designated for zebrafish waste storage and disposal. They are located outside the zebrafish facility in Stevenson Center 2105 and in the equipment corridor on the 11th floor of Light Hall by suite 1155. Fish waste from your lab can be brought to these chest freezers for final disposal. Follow the instructions on the freezers for proper packaging of your waste.
- To schedule a pickup from the freezers when the bucket inside is full, fill out a Chemical Waste Collection Request. The web based form can be found here: [http://www.safety.vanderbilt.edu/resources/hazard\\_collection.htm](http://www.safety.vanderbilt.edu/resources/hazard_collection.htm).

Complete this section for Chemical Waste			
Chemical Name and Percentage (example: Methanol-70%, Water-30%)	Container Information		
	Number	Size	
1 Zebrafish	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	Liters ▾



**Do you have further questions about transgenic biological organism disposal?**

*Please contact VEHS Biosafety at 322-2057 for assistance*