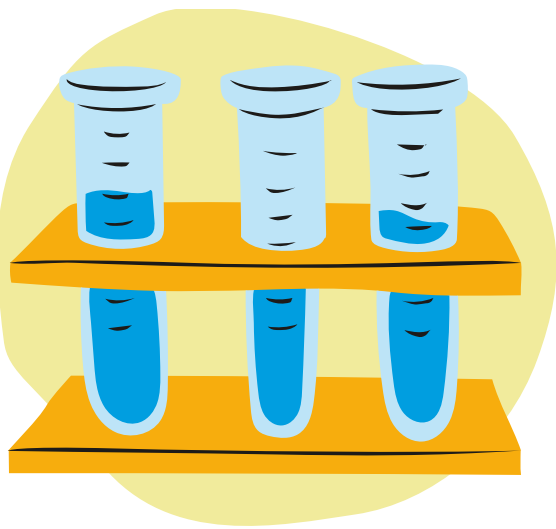


3 Easy Tips to Help Reduce Waste in Labs

Tip #1: Consolidate Purchases and Select Products with Reduced Packaging

Order all the materials you need at one time from a supplier to avoid receiving multiple packages. Be sure to only order what you need and if you require a smaller amount of a specific item, consider asking the vendor what the expiration date is to help minimize the amount of unused product that will be discarded.



Tip #2: Use Glassware Instead of Plastic

Another way to minimize waste in your lab is to use glassware rather than plasticware whenever possible. Glass is not only eco-friendly but has also been reliably used in the lab industry for decades. Unlike plastic, glassware can be washed, sterilized, and reused. Meanwhile, most plastic items are usually considered disposable.

Tip #3: Recycle

Labs now have the option to recycle non-hazardous waste, as many waste transporters are accepting non-hazardous plastic materials from these organizations, such as pipette tip boxes. Some vendors offer recycling programs for their products including Corning, Kimberly-Clark, MilliporeSigma, and New England Biolabs.

Some states also provide hazardous waste recycling services to laboratories, so be sure to research options that may be available to you locally.



Getting Started

Consolidating purchases and selecting products with fewer packaging materials is a great first step towards reducing your lab's environmental impact. You can also consider using glass rather than plastic whenever possible and if you're using plastic, be sure to research the best method to recycle it.

IDK is Eco-friendly!

Immundiagnostik has transitioned its ELISA kit packaging to a sustainable, bio-based solution from PaperFoam® and now uses biodegradable packing materials rather than styrofoam. IDK® also offers customized bulk packaging to help further reduce unnecessary waste in high throughput laboratories.