

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
**GREENSBORO**

*Departments of Art and Interior Architecture  
College of Arts and Sciences and School of Human Environmental Sciences*

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY  
**ALL STUDIO AREAS**

**Painting Clean-up Procedures**

**Sinks are for hand washing ONLY. Follow the instructions below for cleaning brushes and tools**

Brush Cleaning: Oil, Alkyd, Resin-oil, Enamel, Encaustic , and other solvent-thinned paints

1. Rinse brushes in your personal small, reclosable container of the appropriate solvent: odorless mineral spirits.
2. Wipe brushes of all paint and solvent residue on a rag or paper towel.
3. Rinse brushes of remaining paint and solvent residue in ordinary vegetable oil--the cheapest you can find. Wipe brushes on a rag or paper towel.
4. Wash with the soapy water in Tub A. Rinse well in clean water in Tub B. Final rinse in clean water Tub C.
5. Shape the brush heads and allow them to air dry. Store dry brushes in a closed container to prevent the accumulation of dust.

Brush Cleaning: Acrylic dispersion, Poster Paints ("Temperas"), and other water-thinned paints

1. Wipe brushes of all paint on a rag or paper towel.
2. Rinse brushes in your personal container of water.
3. Wipe brushes of remaining paint on a rag or paper towel.
4. Wash with the soapy water in Tub A. Rinse well in clean water in Tub B. Final rinse in clean water Tub C.
5. Shape the brush heads and allow them to dry.

Cycling Wash Water

When the wash water in Tub A becomes too dirty to clean effectively, it SHALL be put in the white drums next to the sinks in Rooms 354, 356, 159, the Foundry, and the Graduate Studio Areas.

Put the water from Tub B into Tub A, and recharge Tub A with detergent.  
Put the water from Tub C into Tub B.  
Fill Tub C with fresh tap water.

**NO water may be put into sink drains! Sinks are for hand washing ONLY.**

#### Liquid Solvent Disposal

Unwanted or waste solvents (except water), oils (including vegetable oils), and mediums SHALL be put into the cylindrical red safety cans located next to the sinks in Rooms 354, 355, 159, the Foundry, and the Graduate Studio Areas.

Waste water used for thinning or rinsing SHALL be put in the white drums as described above.

The lids to all these containers must be kept closed, except when waste is being added.

**DO NOT use sinks or toilets for disposing of these materials:  
doing so will harm the environment and it's illegal.**

#### Paint disposal

Unwanted paint including palette scrapings shall be collected on a paper towel or rag and properly disposed of as described below under Rag and Paper Towel Disposal.

#### Rag and Paper Towel Disposal

Rags or paper towels contaminated with paint or solvents, or that have been used to clean brushes and palettes SHALL be disposed of in the "fire-safe" trash containers in 354, 356, 159, the Foundry, and the Graduate Studio Areas. The lids to these containers must be kept closed.

These materials may not be disposed of in ordinary trashcans as they pose a fire hazard. If dumped with ordinary trash they may harm the environment and it's illegal.

#### Disposal of Failed Art

Unwanted or failed art projects embody environmentally harmful ingredients and SHALL NOT be disposed of in ordinary trash. Break these objects into small pieces and dispose of in the "fire-safe" trash containers.

#### General Disposal

YOU are responsible for removing unwanted furniture or trash from your studio to the nearest dumpster. DO NOT leave these objects in a hallway. Objects in a hallway violate insurance regulations, and can block our emergency exit from the building.