

GET THE LEAD OUT

Prior to November 2008 many autoclave tape brands such as FisherBrand, 3M Comply, Propper, Shamrock, and VWR (Canada) contained Lead Levels that exceed the hazardous waste disposal limits. This means it needs to be collected as hazardous waste after use.

Dispose your leaded autoclave tape as hazardous waste.

- Collect used pieces or tape roll in a ziplock bag
- Affix a hazardous waste sticker on the bag
- Submit a HAZARDOUS WASTE pickup request
<http://vesta.cumc.columbia.edu/ehs/wastepickup/>

For more information contact your [Laboratory Safety Officer](#)

Replace lead-containing rolls of autoclave tape with a non-lead containing alternative below or through your laboratory sales representative. Some examples of lead free autoclave tapes are:

- Autoclave Indicator Tape , TimeMed Labeling (VWR-14217-334)
- Fisherbrand Autoclave Tape Product # (15-999-100B)
- VWR Autoclave Indicator tape (VWR-73390-064)
- SPS Medical– Latex/Lead Free Steam Indicator Tape Product # (LF2-048)
- Schein Dental – Latex /Lead Free Sterilization Tape Product # (1126361)

Check the inside of your autoclave tape if you are using any of the brands mentioned above or refer to an MSDS. Most autoclave tapes with stripes at an angle / / / contains lead; if in faint text reads “AUTOCLAVE” it is most likely lead free.

