

Trent University Sustainable Labs Program



OVERVIEW

Across campus, we have significant efforts underway to reduce Trent's energy use, reduce the amount of waste generated on campus, and to optimize waste diversion from landfill. As we expand our efforts to reduce our collective impact on the environment, we are pleased to introduce programs specifically for labs.

In this overview, we are outlining procedures for recycling lab plastics and glass as well as highlighting Trent's broken glass procedure.

If you have any questions, please reach out to shannonbrockbank@trentu.ca.

Lab Glass and Plastics Recycling

Lab waste described in this section may be included in our new lab recycling program. Depots are located in all science buildings.

LAB PLASTICS

Eligible items:

- empty chemical containers
- funnels
- graduated cylinders
- conical tubes
- Petri dishes

⊗ Not accepted:

- Petri dishes used for pathogenic organisms
- container lids

Procedure:

1. To be eligible, plastic must be clean, free of chemical and chemical residues, and triple rinsed in tap water.
2. Eligible items are to be placed in specific bins labeled "Lab Plastic". Special stations for lab recycling are located in each science building.



We can now Recycle:



LAB GLASS

CLEAR, COLOURLESS

Eligible items:

- beakers
- flasks
- test tubes
- clear colourless chemical bottles
- pyrex glass
- mason jars
- sample bottles

COLOURED

Eligible items:

- glass containers
- chemical bottles
- sample bottles

For all Glass:



Not Accepted:

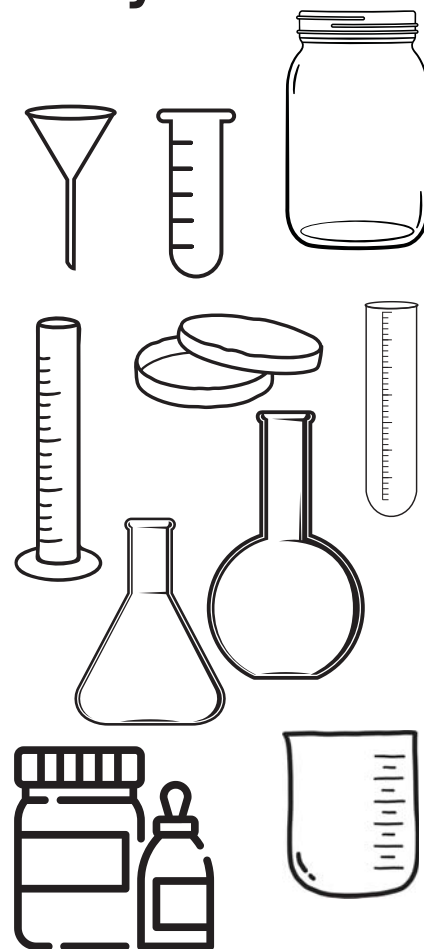
- lids
- broken glass (see broken glass procedure)

Procedure:

1. To be eligible, glass must be clean, free of chemical and chemical residues and triple rinsed in tap water.
2. Eligible items are to be placed in specific bins labelled "Clear/Colourless Lab Glass" or "Coloured Lab Glass". Special stations for lab recycling are located in each science building.



We can now Recycle:



BROKEN LAB GLASS

Broken Glass is managed within each lab for health and safety. This process is supported by caretaking who collects this material for recycling.

Eligible items:

- all broken lab glass
- Pasteur pipets
- glass volumetric pipets
- broken glass test tubes

Procedure:

1. All broken glass is to be placed in the specific containers for broken glass in each teaching lab. Research labs needing a container may reach out to shannonbrockbank@trentu.ca for recommendations.
2. Caretaking is responsible for collecting the containers when full and replacing them with a new container. Please do not fill these containers above the rim as a lid must be fitted for transport.
3. If you have a bin filling up quickly or an upcoming lab anticipated to need additional capacity, contact Science Facilities or submit a service request to shannonbrockbank@trentu.ca.

