



## Leaded Autoclave Indicator Tapes

Surprisingly, older autoclave indicator tapes and even many of the newer brands contain lead in quantities that could require that the tape is disposed of as a hazardous waste after use. In order to reduce hazardous waste generation and encourage the use of less toxic alternatives when available, EH&S now requires that only tapes certified as lead free are purchased and used on campus (please see list below of some certified lead free tapes). Unfortunately you cannot rely on an MSDS to indicate whether or not an autoclave tape contains lead - but an easy way to tell is if the tape has stripes running across at an angle “// // // //”. If it has very faint text "Autoclaved" then it most likely is a lead free alternative.

If you have rolls of autoclave tape that contain lead or ones you are not sure about, please dispose of them through the hazardous waste program. If you chose to use up these older tapes – collection of the strips and bits of used tape will be necessary for disposal through the hazardous waste program. EH&S has already notified both the Cristol Chemistry and MCDB Biology Stockrooms of this issue; they currently stock only the certified lead free tapes, so please purchase your autoclave tape without worry from these stockrooms.

Here is a list of known certified lead free autoclave indicator tapes:

VWR - [VWR Autoclave Indicator Tape](#)

VWR#: 73390-064

VWR - [Autoclave Indicator Tape, TimeMed Labeling](#)

TSI-512, VWR#: 36432-190

TSI-534, VWR#: 14217-334

TSI-501, VWR#: 14217-336

Fisher Scientific - [Lead Free Autoclave Tape](#)

Fisher#: 1599912A, and 1599912B

Fisher#: 1599934A, and 1599934B

Fisher#: 15999100A, and 15999100B

SPS Medical - [Latex/Lead Free Steam Indicator Tape](#)

Product #: LF2-048

If you discover other certified lead free autoclave tapes not listed above, please [let us know](#). Thank you for your cooperation in using less toxic alternatives and reducing hazardous wastes generated on our campus.