

# Safetygram

NCI-Frederick

ISM #165

Laboratory Personnel

January 2013

## Collection of Photographic Film/Paper

Many photographic products currently used in FNLCR laboratories contain silver. When film is processed or developed, some silver leaches into fixer solutions and some remains on the film. Silver is considered a precious metal; recycling silver is mandatory at government facilities. Silver disposal is also regulated by the EPA when levels exceed 5 mg/l in the waste stream. To preserve resources and minimize waste, anyone using black and white or X-ray film or paper should:

1. Collect black and white film/paper and X-ray film/paper in a plain sturdy cardboard box or a clear plastic bag. Color film/paper and other related products have a lesser amount of silver and will not be considered for collection at this time.
2. Mark the box "Photographic film / paper only". Please do not put trash in the box.
3. When the box is full, call Waste Management on x5718 to arrange pickup.

If you have any questions or comments or would like more information on silver disposal and recycling, please contact Waste Management at x5718.