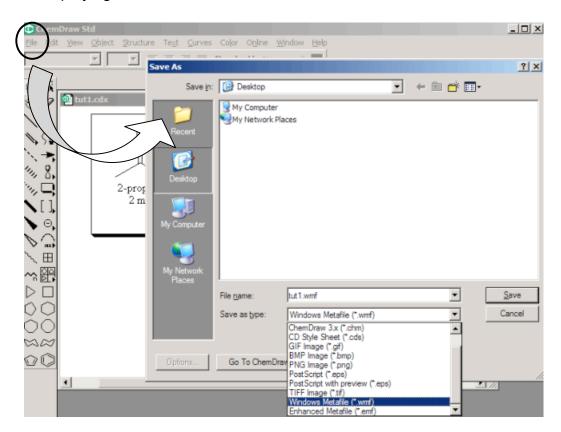# Using ChemDraw Software: An Introduction

Chemical drawing programs enable scientists to communicate chemical structures. Examples of popular chemical drawing programs include ChemDraw, ChemSketch, and ISISDraw.
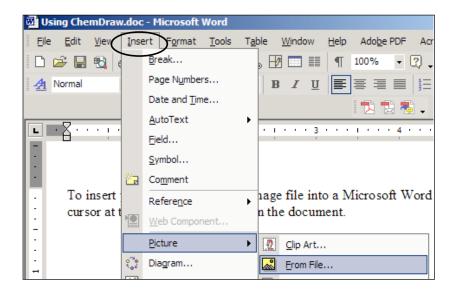
In Chemistry 346, you will use ChemDraw to illustrate your lab reports and special projects. ChemDraw is available for use in the Organic Chemistry Computer Lab, Room B378, and the General Chemistry Computer Lab, Room 1375. You may also download this software for free from the Chemistry Computing Center:
http://computing.chem.wisc.edu/software/software.php

ChemDraw includes many of the standard file formats for transferring information between ChemDraw and documents created using other applications.To enable viewing structures in a word processing document (*e.g.*, Microsoft Word) by someone who does not have ChemDraw, you must save the drawing as an image file and insert the image file into your word processing document. ChemDraw allows you to convert your drawing to bmp, gif, tiff wmf, and other readable image from the **FILE** > **SAVE AS** menu.

- Windows Metafile format (WMF) is useful for transfering ChemDraw drawings to other applications, such as Microsoft Word.
- GIF is useful for working with the hypertext markup language (HTML) used in displaying information on the World Wide Web.

To insert your ChemDraw .wmf image file into a Microsoft Word document, position your cursor at the appropriate location in the document. Use **INSERT > PICTURE > FROM FILE...**

To format the image, (apply borders and/or caption, center, etc.), right-click on the image and use **FORMAT PICTURE...**.