QUICK TIPS: Universal Waste Lamp Disposal

Waste lamps are defined as the bulb or tube portion of an electric lighting device. The following are examples of hazardous lamps: fluorescent, high-intensity discharge (HID), light-emitting diode (LED), neon, mercury vapor, high-pressure sodium, and metal halide lamps. Intact lamps and tubes are managed as Universal Waste and are recycled.

Disposal Guidelines

• Use the appropriate container for different bulb sizes (ex. Use 4’ bulb drums for 4’ bulbs, 8’ bulb drums for 8’ bulbs). Containers can be obtained through Environmental Health & Safety (EHS).

• A label with the words “Universal Waste” must be affixed to the container. The accumulation start date and the type of light must be clearly marked. Labels and containers can be obtained through the EHS website. Do not break bulbs when adding them to the containers.

• Any broken tubes or lamps are considered “Hazardous Waste” and must be collected as such. The broken or leaking lamp must be collected in a separate container and labeled with an appropriate hazardous waste label. Labels can be obtained through the EHS website.

• **DO NOT** mix different tubes/lamps within a container or use this container for other items meant for disposal.

• EHS must be notified when the container is full or within one year of the accumulation date. Pickups occur on the first Tuesday of every month.

Reminders

• The accumulation date is the date in which the first tube or bulb is added to the container. This date should be present on all labels.

• All containers must be disposed of within one year of the accumulation date.

Need supplies, labels, or a waste pick up? Have other questions? Visit the EHS website