

UNIVERSAL WASTE

Requirements and Recycling Log

DEFINITION

Universal wastes are a subset of hazardous waste that may be managed under reduced requirements in Minnesota. Universal wastes include:

- **Batteries:** (such as lead acid, Ni-Cad, and other rechargeable types; does not include alkaline batteries)
- **Dental amalgam:** (amalgam capsules, extracted teeth with amalgam filling, chair-traps and amalgam waste water separator filters)
- **Lamps:** (fluorescent bulbs)
- **Mercury-containing equipment:** (thermometers, thermostats, and other devices containing mercury)
- **Pesticides**
- **Aerosols**

LIABILITY

Generators must ensure they send their universal waste to compliant destination facilities where universal waste is recycled properly.

- **When universal waste is not properly managed it is fully regulated hazardous waste.**

FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE STEPS TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH YOUR UNIVERSAL WASTE

1. LABEL

Label universal waste with the words "Universal Waste" and a clear descriptive name.

- **Example:** "Universal Waste – Amalgam Scraps" or "Universal Waste – Spent Lamps"

2. STORE

Store universal waste in a closed, labeled, and structurally sound container so that if knocked over the contents cannot spill out.

- **Example:** Spent bulbs are in a box with the flaps taped closed

3. RECYCLE ANNUALLY

Date the container when you start filling it and recycle the waste within a year from that date.

4. KEEP RECIEPTS

Keep a record / receipt for each shipment of universal waste onsite for three years

- **Include:** quantity and date shipped, name, address, and phone number of recycler

RESOURCES

For a list of businesses that recycle mercury and mercury-containing wastes, visit RethinkRecycling.com

QUESTIONS: Contact the Hazardous Waste Outreach Team at PHE@co.washington.mn.us or 651-430-6655.

UNIVERSAL WASTE RECYCLING LOG

Use this log to keep record of your universal waste sent or delivered for recycling. Remember to keep a record of each time you recycle universal waste and keep the records on site for 3 years.

Date of Shipment	Transporter	Universal Waste Shipped	Recycler Name	Recycler Phone #	Recycler Address
Example: 3/4/2014	Self or Vendor	12, 4ft fluorescent bulbs 3, compact fluorescent bulbs	ABC Recycler	651-123-4567	123 Recycle Way MN 55082