

Georgia Department of Natural Resources

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UNIVERSAL WASTE HANDLING AND STORAGE (40 CFR Part 273)

1. All containers or accumulation areas should be labeled appropriately (i.e., Used Lamps, Used Batteries, etc.). Containers must be closed when not in use.
2. Universal Wastes may be accumulated for one year. The accumulation start date should appear on each container, or an inventory and bill of lading system should be used to prove accumulation does not exceed one year.
3. Spills must be cleaned-up immediately and properly contained. An evaluation should be performed to determine if the spilled material is a hazardous waste. Broken or crushed mercury-containing lamps cannot be handled as Universal Waste unless they are determined to be non-hazardous.
4. Employees should be trained in how to handle Universal Wastes.
5. Universal Wastes must be treated as hazardous waste unless they are recycled, or TCLP data indicates the amount of hazardous components is below regulatory limits.

TYPE OF UNIVERSAL WASTE	METHOD OF STORAGE
Mercury-Containing Lamps: Fluorescent, Metal Halide, Neon, Mercury Vapor	Used lamps should be placed in the original container or in such a way that they will not be broken until proper packaging can be obtained.
High Intensity Discharge Lamps (HID's)	Used HID lamps should be returned to the original containers or placed in the appropriately sized fiber drums. <u>HID's should be accumulated separately from other lamps.</u>
Mercury Thermostats and Other Mercury-Containing Devices	Used mercury thermostats and other mercury-containing devices should be accumulated in a sealed UN-approved pail or drum.
Batteries: Alkaline Mercury-Containing Forklift	Batteries should be accumulated in UN-approved 5 gallon pails. One pail should be for alkaline, NiCad, Lithium and all non-mercury containing cells. Another pail should be used for mercury oxide, silver oxide, and all mercury-containing cells. All batteries must have terminals taped with electrical tape or placed in individual plastic bags. Packing material, such as vermiculite or Styrofoam, should not be used. <u>Forklift batteries should be placed on pallets (no stacking) and returned to the supplier.</u>

If you have questions or need a list of companies that handle Universal Wastes, contact the Georgia EPD Generator Compliance Program at (404)657-8831.

Revised: December 20, 2004