Regulated Recycling

Spent light bulbs, consumer electronic waste, batteries and mercury-containing devices are regulated waste streams at the University of Michigan and MUST be recycled. These items cannot be thrown in the general trash. These items are regulated as “Universal Wastes” under federal and state regulations. Universal wastes can contain toxic materials and can have a negative impact on the environment and consequently human and animal health if not disposed of properly. Universal wastes can be accumulated for up to one year and must be properly packaged, stored and labeled.

For more information

University of Michigan
Occupational Safety & Environmental Health
www.oseh.umich.edu

Environmental Stewardship Program
Andy Berki, Manager
(734) 647-3120
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Megan Lazar, P2 Specialist
(734) 936-5238
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Hazardous Materials Management (HazMat)
(734) 763-4568
Pollution Prevention (P2): Regulated Recycling Programs

**Light Bulb Recycling**
All types of light bulbs on campus must be recycled. This includes fluorescent tubes, compact fluorescent bulbs, high intensity discharge, UV, mercury vapor and incandescent bulbs.

Light bulbs can contain mercury, lead and cadmium.

Bulbs should be carefully packaged to prevent breakage. All bulbs must also be labeled as, “Universal Waste Electric Lamps” with the box accumulation start date, the building name and the type and quantity of bulbs in the box. Labels and boxes are available at OSEH.

Bulbs can be transported to the Bulb Trailer located in the northeast corner of the Transportation parking lot off Kipke Drive. Bulbs are also routinely picked up from the Hospital Dock 5, Medical School Dock 2, and Dental School Dock. Faculty and staff may contact Zone Maintenance at 647-2059 for a special pick-up.

**Electronic Waste Recycling**
Consumer electronics are devices operated by electricity that contain circuit boards. Think of this as anything with a cord or a battery. Examples include computers and accessories, microwaves, telephones, cell phones, PDA’s and remote controls. Many electronic devices contain heavy metals and brominated fire retardants.

All used consumer electronics should be transported to Property Disposition for resale or proper disposal. Student Housing and some buildings have collection gondolas or boxes in the dock area. Electronic waste must be labeled, “Universal Waste Electronics” with the box accumulation start date.

**Battery Recycling**
All types of batteries are collected for recycling. Specially marked white plastic buckets have been placed in most buildings for collection of common “household” varieties, such as AA, AAA, C, D, 9-volt, button, photo-electronics and nickel cadmium. Buckets are usually located in common areas such as docks, mail rooms or copy rooms. Place spent batteries in the bucket and replace the lid. For questions about special types of batteries or to request a FREE battery bucket or pick-up, please contact OSEH Hazardous Materials Management at 763-4568.

**Mercury Elimination**
OSEH has developed this program to reduce the risk of environmental contamination, human exposure, and costly clean-up activities associated with accidental thermometer breakage. Other mercury-containing devices collected include thermostats, barometers, manometers, and medical equipment. Special pricing for non-mercury alternatives are available through Fisher Scientific through Procurement Services. Contact OSEH Hazardous Materials Management to schedule a pick-up.