

## PROPER SAFETY EQUIPMENT

- Safety Glasses** - Proper eye protection must always be worn when handling Universal Waste.
- Protective Gloves** - Hand protection must be worn to protect you from broken glass, sharp edges and battery acid.

## WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

Universal Waste not in proper storage containers and/ or not properly labeled is a violation of environmental regulations and is punishable by a fine. Also, it can pose a hazard to individuals and the environment if not managed properly.



*If you see something say something!*

*Call EH&S at (401)874-2592*

| UNIVERSAL WASTE               |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| SHIPPER _____                 |  |
| ADDRESS _____                 |  |
| CITY, STATE, ZIP _____        |  |
| CONTENTS _____                |  |
| _____                         |  |
| ACCUMULATION START DATE _____ |  |

HW30AP ©MMC

### Filling Out the Label:

- **Shipper:** The University of Rhode Island
- **Contents:** (Choose One)
  - “Used Batteries”
  - “Used Lamps”
  - Used Electronics containing CRTs”
  - “Used Electronics containing no CRTs”
- **Accumulation Start Date:** The date at which the first item went into the container.

## Universal Waste Management

The University of Rhode Island



Department of Public Safety  
Environmental Health & Safety

<http://web.uri.edu/ehs>

Environmental Health and Safety  
177 Plains Road  
Kingston, RI 02881

# WHAT IS UNIVERSAL WASTE?

## Used Lamps



1. Carefully place used lamps into their proper containers. **DO NOT** break the lamps. Broken lamps are considered Hazardous Waste.

2. Once used lamps are in the container, be sure to replace the lid and it must remain closed unless you are adding to the container. Please note that a separate container must be used to store used bulbs from new, unused bulbs. All bulbs must be in a container. Do not leave them in inappropriate places.

3. Be sure that the container of used bulbs is labeled with a *Universal Waste* label, which is correctly filled out. The accumulation start date must be written on the label when the first bulb is put into the container.



## Ballasts, Batteries & Mercury Devices

### BALLASTS



1. Ballasts are sorted into two categories: Non-PCB and PCB containing ballasts. Each are collected in a different container and must be properly labeled.
  - Ballasts containing PCBs are managed as TSCA waste and EH&S handles the disposal of them.
2. Be sure to close the top once ballasts are in their appropriate container.

### Batteries

1. **Lead Acid:** All large lead acid batteries must be placed on the pallet for storage, while smaller lead acid batteries are stored in a drum. Please note that the battery terminals must be taped to ensure safe storage.
2. **Other Batteries:** Small batteries are to be placed in 5gal pails.

3. Always be sure to close the containers when finished. The container must be labeled with a Universal Waste label.
4. Leaking or damaged batteries must be put in proper containment and managed as Hazardous Waste. Contact EH&S for leaking or damaged batteries.

### Mercury Devices

1. Please call EH&S if you have any device containing mercury.

## Computers/Electronics (E-Waste)



1. **ALL** computers and unwanted electronic equipment must go through the Property Office before disposal. Do not store unwanted items in closets or hallways- Call promptly.
2. Be sure that once equipment is determined as universal waste, a universal waste label must be on the equipment.
3. If any device contains any hazardous material (i.e. mercury, oil, Freon), that component must be removed. Once removed, that device is then managed as universal waste. Contact EH&S for assistance.