

# Universal Waste Lamps



A variety of lamps can contain hazardous materials, mainly the toxic metals mercury and lead, and must be managed as a regulated waste. Included in this category are fluorescent, compact fluorescent, UV, high intensity discharge, neon, mercury vapor, high pressure sodium, and metal halide lamps.

Lamps fall into two categories – traditional, and the newer “environmentally friendly” lamps, some of which may be identified by their green markings.

- A) Environmentally friendly or TCLP compliant lamps - these lamps are manufactured to not meet the definition of a hazardous waste. Lamps listed below may be managed as non-hazardous and can be disposed of in the normal trash:

TCLP Compliant Lamps	
Manufacturer	Designation
General Electric	Ecolux® or ECO
Philips	Alto and Alto II™
Sylvania (Osram)	Ecologic or ECO



Only the lamps listed above may be managed as non-hazardous. If you have a lamp that you believe is environmentally friendly but is not listed above, please contact the EH&S, 208-885-6524, for verification. Otherwise:

- place the used lamp(s) in a box or other container, separating by type,
- label the container with the words “Lamps – Normal Trash,”
- contact the appropriate custodial service for collection.

- B) Traditional lamps - these lamps must be collected by:

- placing them in a box or other container that can be closed, separating by type,
- dating the container with the date that the first lamp was placed in the container,
- labeling the container with the words “Universal Waste - Lamps”, and
- delivering the lamps to the Recycling/Surplus/Solid Waste Center (RSSWC) for disposal within six months of the date placed on the container.

\*NOTE: Always keep the container closed except when adding lamps.\*

**\*\*UPDATE - August 2013:** EHS now provides containers that satisfy the above requirements. AND, EHS will automatically collect and replace the containers every six months. Contact EHS to make arrangements.\*\*

## Managing broken lamps

- A) Environmentally friendly or TCLP compliant lamps - scoop up or sweep up glass fragments and powder and dispose of as you would any broken glass.
- B) Traditional lamps - follow these procedures if only one fluorescent lamp is broken:
- using gloves, carefully pick up or scoop up the glass fragments and powder with a stiff piece of paper or cardboard,
  - use sticky tape to pick up glass fragments or powder,
  - if a hard surface, wipe the area clean with a wet paper towel,
  - place all items in a heavy duty plastic bag, and
  - submit to EHS for disposal.

For all other broken lamp situations, leave and secure the area, and contact EHS at 208-885-6524.