

QUICK SUMMARY

DO NOT

- Discard fluorescent lamps in the trash.
- Crush or break lamps.

DO

- Collect used lamps in an appropriate container, such as a box.
- Keep the box closed except to add lamps.
- Label the box with the words "Universal Waste—Lamp(s)," or "Waste Lamp(s)," or "Used Lamp(s)"
- Send the lamps for recycling or proper disposal.
- Keep records.

QUESTIONS?

Please call the Hazardous Waste Helpline at **(302) 739-9403**. You may remain anonymous.

The Fine Print

Regulatory Compliance is not optional. Manage your waste lamps responsibly. You may be inspected.

DISCLAIMER

This brochure is a summary provided by the SHWMB as a reminder to tanning bed owners of the proper disposal of fluorescent lamps. It is not intended as a substitute for the *Delaware Regulations Governing Hazardous Waste*.



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BAD BULBS

HAZARDOUS WASTE REQUIREMENTS FOR TANNING BED LAMPS



Hg

MERCURY IS HAZARDOUS



BACKGROUND

Waste fluorescent lamps such as those used in tanning beds and in lighting fixtures often exceed the hazardous waste regulatory limit for mercury. These lamps must be managed as hazardous waste and cannot be discarded in the trash.

In Delaware, the *Regulations Governing Hazardous Waste (DRGHW)* allow businesses to manage waste fluorescent lamps in a simplified manner under what are known as “*Universal Waste*” rules.

This brochure summarizes these rules and provides contact information if you have further questions.

This brochure is for businesses that accumulate less than 1,000 used fluorescent lamps at any one time. If you have more than this, contact the Solid & Hazardous Waste Management Branch (SHWMB).

IMPROPER DISPOSAL

Improper disposal of fluorescent lamps will result in the release of mercury, which is toxic. Recycling lamps is a Best Management Practice to avoid mercury releases.

Failure to properly dispose of fluorescent lamps in accordance with the DRGHW may result in an enforcement action against you, including possible fines.

LAMP MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS

Waste fluorescent lamps must be accumulated in a **closed container**, such as the box the original lamps came in.

Each container must be **labeled** with one of the following phrases: “Universal Waste—Lamp(s),” or “Waste Lamp(s),” or “Used Lamp(s)”.

Waste lamps may be accumulated no longer than **one year** from the date the lamp is taken out of service (i.e. generation date).

Records showing the generation date must be maintained. An easy method is writing the date that the first waste lamp was taken out of service on the box.

All **employees** handling lamps must be provided information on proper handling and what to do if a lamp breaks.

Waste lamps must be **sent to a facility** permitted to accept lamps. The use of a hazardous waste manifest is not required. It is recommended records be maintained so you can demonstrate your proper lamp management.

Lamp shipments may be transported by a contracted transporter or by you, the small quantity handler of universal waste. In either case, a Delaware Hazardous Waste Transporter Permit is not required.

RECYCLING LAMPS

The mercury in fluorescent lamps can be safely and easily recycled. There are a variety of recycling services offered by businesses in the region.

One of the simplest methods offered by companies that recycle lamps is the purchase of a pre-printed lamp box (similar to the box that new lamps come in). Simply collect used lamps in the box, manage the box according to the requirements previously listed, and ship it (often using a pre-arranged service) to the recycling company when the box is full.

Companies that provide lamp recycling services can be readily found by using your favorite internet search engine and searching the phrase “fluorescent lamp recycling,” or contacting your tanning bed lamp supplier, or contacting the SHWMB.

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

Fluorescent lamps not recycled must be disposed of as hazardous waste and are regulated by the DRGHW. Contact the SHWMB for further details.

BROKEN LAMP CLEANUP

The Delaware Department of Health & Social Services has information regarding the cleanup of broken lamps. Call Dr. Llewellyn of the Division of Public Health at **302-270-1823** for information on appropriate cleanup.

