

Homeowners Tips on handling Universal Wastes at Home:

What are considered Universal Wastes Right now?

- Waste Fluorescent light tubes
- All waste dry-cell batteries that are not automotive, (AA, AAA, C, D, Lithium, Nickel-Cadmium, rechargeable, etc.)
- Waste Mercury thermostats
- Waste Mercury Thermometers
- Anything containing Mercury that is a waste.
- Waste Televisions, Computer Monitors, and various electronic devices.
- Non-empty aerosol cans

What can I do at home to handle these wastes?

Fluorescent light tubes – When you buy a new fluorescent tube, save the package that it came in and place the used fluorescent lamp into the packaging so that you can transport it to your nearest collector.

Batteries – Use a box or coffee can to collect those small batteries until you are able to take them to your nearest collector. Make it a part of your spring-cleaning to take the year's worth of batteries to be recycled.

Mercury – Mercury containing products are not changed out very often, so if you have a mercury thermostat, thermometer or other mercury-containing waste, do not break the ampoule of mercury. Take the item to your nearest mercury-accepting facility to be recycled as soon as you are able to.

Televisions, Computer Monitors, and various electronic devices – Do not break the devices, because many collectors/recyclers may not accept them from you because it would require additional special handling on their part or they may charge you for the disposal of the Electronic Device.

Non-Empty Aerosol cans – Try to use the entire aerosol product for its intended purpose. If there is still product and you can't use it or the aerosol delivery mechanism is broken, then place them in a box or container and take them to your nearest collector/recycler of non-empty aerosol cans.

Finding a business that is authorized to take these wastes from you

Call various businesses listed to find the one right for you.

- Do they accept the Universal Wastes that you are trying to turn in?
- Are they going to charge you a fee? How much?
- Do you have to transport the wastes to them?
- Will they pick up your universal wastes?