



SQG News

Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention

Universal Wastes

What are they and how do you manage them?

Universal wastes are wastes that meet the definition of hazardous waste in the Hazardous Waste Rules, but which, during accumulation and transport, pose a relatively low risk compared to other hazardous wastes. These wastes, when properly recycled, do not count toward your waste generator status. Universal wastes include automotive antifreeze, fluorescent lamps and other mercury-containing devices, cathode ray tubes (CRTs) from older TVs and computers, certain types of batteries, and recalled or suspended hazardous waste pesticides regulated under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA).

The NHDES Hazardous Waste Management Bureau has created guidance documents for some of these wastes to provide information to generators/handlers and transporters. To access these documents, **click on the links highlighted below.**



[Automotive Antifreeze](#), during normal use, may become contaminated with traces of fuel, metal particles and grit. Benzene, lead and other hazardous constituents may cause used automotive antifreeze to be characterized as a hazardous waste.



[Batteries](#) currently contain one or more of the following eight metals: mercury, cadmium, lead, zinc, manganese, nickel, silver and lithium. These include nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd), small sealed lead-acid and hazardous lithium batteries.



[Fluorescent lamps and other mercury-containing devices:](#)

All fluorescent lamps (including CFLs) and high intensity discharge lamps (the term commonly used for several types of lamps, including metal halide, high pressure sodium, and mercury vapor lamps) contain a small amount of mercury and, by law, must be recycled or disposed of as hazardous waste. They cannot go in the trash or dumpster. Here is a list of vendors for **[lamp recycling](#)**. Some town Transfer Stations may also take these items. Call ahead to make sure that your town will accept these items from businesses.

Pollution Prevention Corner

LED vs. Fluorescent

Fluorescent bulbs have gone through many redesigns to become more energy efficient, but they still cannot compete with the efficiency and long life of LED (light emitting diode) bulbs. The added bonus of LED bulbs is they do not contain mercury. More good news: The cost to purchase LED bulbs has come way down.

There are also incentives available through your energy provider. In fact, NHPPP has partnered with New Hampshire utilities to offer free on-site simple audits. When you request a visit from us, we will invite an energy efficiency representative from your utility to join for the visit. This provides you an opportunity to find out what you can do to save energy AND money on your utility bills!

Call us at: (603) 271-6460 or email: **nhppp@des.nh.gov** to set up an appointment.

Certain types of thermostats may also contain mercury. Intact thermostats can be recycled through the [Thermostat Recycling Corporation](#).



Cathode Ray tubes:

NHDES maintains a list of [computer and television recyclers](#). Some town Transfer Stations may also take these items but, as with fluorescent lamps, call ahead to make sure that your town will accept them from businesses.

Universal Waste Pesticides:

For the management of Universal Waste Pesticides, refer to the New Hampshire Hazardous Waste Rule [Env-Hw 1110](#).



OTHER NEWS

E-manifests

In case you haven't heard yet, on June 30, 2018, EPA will be changing how manifests are processed/collected/tracked across the country. ANY state or federally regulated waste that is shipped on a manifest will be required to be part of the e-Manifest system. Paper manifests will still be allowed, but EPA is encouraging the use of electronic manifests. Fees for the use of the system will be based on what type of manifest is being used and will be billed to the receiving facilities and Treatment, Storage and Disposal Facilities (TSDF).

EPA recently distributed [Fact Sheets](#) containing information regarding the e-Manifest system.

For more information or to utilize EPA's test system, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/e-manifest>

It is important to note: if you still use the paper manifest and do not utilize the e-Manifest system when the waste is shipped from your facility, you must still submit a copy of that manifest to the state, as you have done in the past. If you use the full electronic system, we will obtain that manifest information from EPA's e-Manifest database.

If you have any questions, please let us know. Your hazardous waste transporter or TSDF will also have information on how they are proceeding with this new process.

If you would like to speak to someone regarding these new changes, please call us at: (603) 271-2921 or (603) 271-2942 or email us at hazwastereporting@des.nh.gov

Intern Season

Summertime is a season when NHDES sees an influx of interns to assist programs with various projects. The SQG Self-Certification Program hires interns to assist businesses with compliance. Interns are tasked with visiting a list of facilities to ensure compliance, assist with the self-certification form and/or answer questions the businesses may have. This is a great opportunity for businesses to get answers to questions and better understand what is required. So, if an intern visits, welcome them to your facility and know that they are there to help! If you would like to request a visit, please contact Christie Faro at (603) 271-6425 or sqg@des.nh.gov.

