

Environmental Protection Agency Universal Waste Rule (UWR)

Universal Waste Handling Summary

What is the Universal Waste Rule

The Universal Waste Rule provides a set of streamlined regulations for certain Hazardous Wastes to reduce the regulatory burden by allowing longer time for the storage of waste, reduced record-keeping requirements, and consolidation off-site without a permit.

What is Universal Waste

A few examples of items that are categorized as Universal Waste: batteries, some pesticides, mercury-containing thermostats, some electronic equipment, and lamps. North Coast Electric currently handles lamps, ballasts, and battery Waste for its customers.

Who Qualifies as a Universal Waste Handler

A Universal Waste Handler is any person that generates or *accumulates* Universal Waste. A handler of Universal Waste is prohibited from testing, disposing, or recycling Universal Waste. Handlers must provide personnel basic training for handling Waste, establish procedures to be followed in the event of an emergency, and mark and label all containers of as Universal Waste.

Requirements of Small Quantity Handler of Universal Waste (SQHUW)

1. Does not accumulate *greater* than 5,000 kg of Universal Waste onsite (batteries, pesticides, thermostats, lamps and used electronics collectively) at any time is considered a SQHUW.
2. Must mark and label containers and be able to demonstrate the length of time the Universal Waste has been accumulated. (*North Coast Electric's RMA & comprehensive log accomplishes this.*)
3. Can accumulate Waste for up *one* year.
4. Can ship to, collect, or *receive* universal waste from other handlers.
5. Can *transport* without a license, placard, or manifest but must be in compliance with Federal Department of Transportation requirements. An EPA identification number is *not* required
6. Must store Waste in a *separate area* marked "Universal Waste Accumulation Area".
7. Must *label* Waste as Universal Waste – with the name of the waste, e.g. *Universal Waste – Used Mercury Lamps.*

North Coast Electric is considered a Small Quantity Universal Waste Handler (SQUWH) and complies with the above Universal Waste Rule requirements.

For more information visit the following websites: www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/hw/hwregs.htm
<http://dep.state.ct.us/wst/mercury/uwrule.htm>
<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/id/univwast/table.htm>

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