

Purpose?

To guide Cal Poly Pomona faculty, staff, and students in identifying, handling, storing, and disposing of universal waste (UW) in compliance with California hazardous waste regulations.

What is Universal Waste?

Universal Waste includes widely generated waste that requires proper management. Cal Poly Pomona follows the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) requirements for collection and disposal of universal waste items.

Common Universal Wastes Items?

Category	Example
Batteries	Alkaline, lithium-ion, nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd), lead-acid (sealed or unsealed)
Lamps (Light Bulbs)	Fluorescent tubes, CFLs, LEDs, mercury vapor, high-intensity discharge (HID)
Electronic Devices	Computers, monitors, printers, TVs, cell phones, tablets, keyboards, mice
Mercury-Containing Equipment	Thermostats, thermometers, manometers, switches
Aerosol Cans	Spray paints, cleaners, adhesives, air fresheners (non-empty)
CRT Devices	Televisions and monitors with cathode ray tubes
Photovoltaic (Solar) Panels	Panels that contain hazardous metals such as lead or cadmium

Disposal and Pickup Procedures

1. Place UW in appropriate, labeled containers (e.g., cardboard boxes).
2. Complete a waste collection request through the Risk Safety Solutions (RSS) or via Smartsheet Universal Waste intake form.
3. The EH&S office will coordinate with you to schedule the waste pickup.

Special Considerations for Labs and Shops

- Chemically contaminated electronics or broken glassware may be regulated as hazardous waste, not UW.
- Check Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for materials before disposal.
- Contact the EH&S office if you need any assistance with classification of hazardous material.

Contacts for Waste Pickup or Questions

Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S):

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