

***YORK COLLEGE***

**Universal Wastes  
Awareness Training**



**O'BRIEN & GERE**  
C O M P A N I E S

# Purpose

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- *To help York staff to become aware of the Universal Waste Management regulations & requirements related to batteries, lamps, pesticides and thermostats*

# York College Contacts

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## □ Environmental Health & Safety Officer:

- Ching See Chan; Ext. 2662

## □ Superintendent, Buildings & Grounds:

- Joseph Goffredo; Ext. 2203

## □ Asst. Superintendent, Buildings & Grounds :

- George Fellows; Ext. 2200

## □ Emergencies:

- Security; Ext. 2222

# Awareness Training Topics

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- ❑ Generation and identification
- ❑ Accumulation areas
- ❑ Packaging and labeling
- ❑ Storage areas
- ❑ Disposal procedures

# Awareness Training Topics

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- Reporting and record keeping
- General recommendations
- Prohibited activities
- Information sources and contacts

# Universal Wastes

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- Generated in a wide variety of settings, not only industrial
- Generated by a wide community
- Present in significant volumes in non-hazardous systems
- Examples:
  - batteries
  - pesticides
  - thermostats
  - hazardous waste lamps

# Definitions

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- **Battery** - electrochemical cell designed to receive, store and deliver electrical energy
- **Pesticide** - pesticides that have been banned or recalled, are obsolete, or no longer needed.

# Definitions

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- **Lamps** - fluorescent, high intensity discharge (HID), mercury vapor, metal halide
- **Thermostats** - that contain mercury
- **Small Quantity Handler** - does not accumulate more than 5,000 kg (11,023 lb) of all universal waste



# Regulatory Requirements

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- must not dispose Universal Waste on site
- must not treat or dilute a Universal Waste
- must prevent releases to the environment
- not required to register with USEPA or NYSDEC
- small quantity handlers not required to keep records

# Management Requirements

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- Labeling
- Accumulation time limits
- Employee training
- Spills
- Shipments

# Labeling Requirements

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- **Labeling** - the waste or the container must have the words:
  - “Universal Waste - Batteries” or
  - “Universal Waste - Lamps” or
  - “Universal Waste - Pesticide”

# Universal Waste Lamps Packaging



# Accumulation Times

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- **Accumulation time limits**

- a small quantity handler may accumulate universal waste for no longer than one year
- must be able to demonstrate length of time

HOW?

- label each item, or
- label container, or
- maintain inventory system

# Employee Training

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- Employee Training Requirements:  
all employees who handle or manage universal waste must be informed of procedures for proper handling and emergency procedures appropriate to the types of universal waste handled at the facility

# Spills Management

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## Spills

- call EHSO at Ext. 2662 and provide information about the release
- immediately contain all releases and residues
- EHSO will determine if any material is a hazardous waste
- if so, EHSO will manage as a hazardous waste

# Shipping Requirements

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## Shipments of Universal Waste

- handler must ship to another handler or destination facility
- if handler self-transport, must meet DOT requirements
- no manifest required
- DO NOT describe as “hazardous waste” or “waste” on shipping papers
- tracking of shipment not required



# Batteries

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- Spent lead-acid batteries (car batteries) must be managed as universal waste or hazardous waste
- A used battery becomes a waste on the date that it is discarded
- Batteries must be stored in a way that prevents a release to the environment

# Batteries (cont.)

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- Batteries that show evidence of leakage must be placed in a container that is structurally sound, compatible with the contents of the battery and kept closed
- If waste is generated from batteries, call EHSO at Ext. 2662 to determine if the waste is hazardous

# Batteries (cont.)

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- As long as the battery casing is intact you can:
  - sort by type
  - mix types into one container (label container)
  - discharge the battery
  - regenerate the battery

# Pesticides

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- Universal Waste Pesticides are:
  - recalled pesticides
  - suspended or cancelled pesticides
- Universal waste pesticide container must have original label and the words “Universal Waste - Pesticide”
- If no original label, must comply with DOT and state labeling requirements, call EHSO at Ext. 2662

# Lamps

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- Re-package spent lamps in their original shipping cartons
- Store the spent lamps so as to prevent breakage
- Label the container
- Use a permitted lamp recycler to treat and recycle your waste lamps.
- Crushing is prohibited by NYSDEC - results in a Hazardous Waste

# Universal Waste Lamps Packaging





# “Broken Bulbs”

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Bulbs that are broken in use or in handling must be managed as “Hazardous Waste”



# “e-wastes” (*i.e.*, computer components, laboratory instrumentation)

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# “Used” Computer Storage

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# Spills and Emergencies

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## □ IN THE EVENT OF A SPILL

- Extinguish all sources of ignition
- Isolate incompatible materials
- Attempt to stop or contain the release at the source --PROVIDED THIS CAN BE DONE SAFELY
- Isolate receptors such as floor drains, sumps, soil, and runoff areas

# Spills and Emergencies

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## ❑ DO NOT CLEAN UP A SPILL IF

- You have not been trained
- You do not have the knowledge to do it safely
- You lack materials to clean it up
- You feel it is unsafe to clean it up

# Spills and Emergencies

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- Minor chemical spill - less than 1 liter
  - notify others in the area
  - avoid breathing fumes
  - contact EHSO (Ext. 2662) & Campus Security (Ext. 2222)
  - assess the size, toxicity, hazards of the spill
  - provide adequate ventilation
  - locate clean-up materials
  - use proper PPE and safety equipment

# Spills and Emergencies

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- ❑ Major chemical spill - more than 1 liter or wide spread - DO NOT ATTEMPT TO CLEAN UP!
  - contact the EHSO (Ext. 2662) & Campus Security (Ext. 2222)
  - notify others in the area and evacuate
  - attend to injured or contaminated persons
  - assess the size, toxicity, hazards of the spill
  - have person with knowledge of incident assist emergency personnel upon arrival

# Spills and Emergencies

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- The Spill Response Team Coordinator will direct and coordinate the spill clean-up activities and evaluate if an environmental contractor will be required to perform the clean-up activities. The Spill Response Team Coordinator will initiate any notification procedures.

# Information Sources

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- Call EHSO at Ext. 2662
- NYSDEC at  
[http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshh/regs/374\\_3.pdf](http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshh/regs/374_3.pdf)
- USEPA at  
<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/id/univwast.htm>