

SAFETY QUICK FACTS

Fluorescent Lamps/Bulbs

The US Environmental Protection Agency issued a July 1999 final rule regulating mercury containing fluorescent lamps/bulbs, including but not limited to, high intensity discharge lamps, neon lamps, mercury vapor lamps, high pressure sodium lamps, or metal halide lamps, in concentrations that exceed the US EPA regulatory limit (0.2 ppm) as a Universal Waste. The result is the following list of standards for collecting, storing, and transporting the lamps.

Personnel responsible for replacing or removing fluorescent lamps shall:

- Remove lamps from the fixture without breaking;
- Place spent lamps into empty fluorescent lamp boxes or a box supplied by EH&S Environmental Affairs (EH&S);
- Label and clearly mark on the box one of the following:
 - “Universal Waste-Lamps”
 - “Waste Lamps”
 - “Used Lamps”
- Mark on the box the earliest date that the first lamp was placed into the container;
- Ensure that the container is closed at all times except when lamps are added or removed from the container; and
- Place containers of spent lamps in designated areas and submit for pick up by EH&S. **Lamp boxes should be submitted for pick up within 6 months of the start date.**
- Place any broken lamps into a container, seal, label, date, and submit for pick up by EH&S.
- Faculty, staff, or students who occasionally need to dispose of mercury-containing lamps should contact EH&S for assistance.

Incorrect Storage of Lamps



BULB NOT STORED IN CLOSED BOXES AND BOXES NOT LABELED AND DATED.

Correct Storage of Lamps



BULBS STORED IN LABELED AND DATED CLOSED BOXES.

Document #:	EA-2	Version:	v1.0	Date:	July 24, 2015
Environmental Health & Safety: Environmental Affairs			Contact: 919-515-6859		