

Health Care Center Waste Management Guidance

Some of the wastes generated in the University Health Care Centers are regulated as “Hazardous Waste” or “Universal Waste”.

Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste includes Flammable Liquids, Corrosive Liquids, and Some Expired Pharmaceuticals/Chemicals. All hazardous waste are managed through REHS.

Please use the following link for requesting a pick-up of hazardous waste.

[REHS Online Hazardous Waste Pickup Request](#)

Flammable Liquids

Flammable Liquids are any items with a flash point < 140 F. This includes Methanol, Ethanol, Isopropyl Alcohol, Acetone, etc. Additionally many prepared solutions may exhibit the characteristic of flammability (see link below to common healthcare hazardous wastes).

Corrosive Liquids

Corrosive Liquids are items that have a pH less than or equal to (\leq) 2 or greater than or equal to (\geq) 12.5. This includes solutions of Acetic Acid, Hydrochloric Acid, etc. Additionally many prepared solutions may exhibit the characteristic of corrosivity (see link below to common healthcare hazardous wastes).

Expired Pharmaceuticals/Chemicals

Expired Pharmaceuticals/Chemicals are items, which are classified as hazardous waste due to their composition (i.e. epinephrine, nicotine, ect.). This is because they exhibit a characteristic that is considered hazardous waste or they contain a listed hazardous waste.

The following link (from the Florida DEP) is an excellent resource to determine if the material you have is considered hazardous waste:

[List of Pharmaceuticals that are Potentially Hazardous Waste when Discarded](#)

If you are unsure please contact REHS for a hazardous waste determination.

Universal Waste

Universal Waste includes Rechargeable Batteries, Mercury Containing Equipment, Consumer Electronics, and Fluorescent Bulbs.

Rechargeable Batteries

Rechargeable batteries are to be collected and will be picked-up by REHS. This includes the following: Lead Acid, NiCad, NiMH and Lithium batteries.

Please use the link below for requesting a pick-up of rechargeable batteries.

[REHS Online Hazardous Waste Pickup Request](#)

Currently REHS is not collecting non-rechargeable alkaline batteries, these can be discarded in the general trash.

Mercury Containing Equipment

Mercury containing equipment are to be collected and will be picked-up by REHS. This includes the following: blood pressure devices, thermometers, and mercury switches (i.e. thermostats).

Please use the link below for requesting a pick-up of mercury containing equipment.

[REHS Online Hazardous Waste Pickup Request](#)

Consumer Electronics

Items such as Computers, Television, VCR's, Stereos and other items, which contain circuit boards, are considered consumer electronics. Please contact Rutgers Material Services at (732) 445-2255 for the removal of these items.

Fluorescent Bulbs

Spent fluorescent bulbs are managed by the facilities maintenance department. These items are stored in various locations throughout the University. To request a pick up of spent fluorescent bulbs, please contact the Facilities Maintenance Zone responsible for your location.

Other Wastes

Toner Cartridges

The majority of spent toner cartridges can be returned to the supplier/manufacturer in the original container. Please see the instructions from the supplier/manufacturer of your toner cartridges, for specific information on returning spent cartridges.

Please Note: Any equipment that has been labeled as hazardous (i.e. biohazardous, radioactive, etc.) must be appropriately decontaminated and the labels must be defaced prior to disposal or prior to Rutgers Material Services pickup. Please contact your Campus Health & Safety Specialist at (732) 445-2550 for more information.