UNIVERSAL WASTE HANDLING  
(including Fluorescent Tubes and Mercury Vapor Lamps)

The following information must be provided to all staff and contractors who handle, store, or transport fluorescent tubes and mercury vapor lamps.

• All spent fluorescent tubes (to include energy savings lamps and mercury vapor lamps) must be returned to the box in which they were shipped. The tube/lamp must be marked to indicate that it has been expended. The box must be sealed or closed unless it is actively being used.

• When boxes are filled with expended tubes or lamps, they must be taped shut and the exterior of the box must be marked with the words, “Universal Waste Lamps” or “Waste Lamps” and the building name.

• The taped box of expended tubes and lamps must be carefully transported to the designated Central Accumulation Area in Rudman Hall, room B26A. Please contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at 862-4041 for more information.

• Please remember, if the tubes or lamps are broken then they will be designated HAZARDOUS WASTE. If a tube or lamp is accidentally broken, please thoroughly clean up all of the broken material (see below).

FLUORESCENT BULB CLEAN UP

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends the following clean up and disposal guidelines:

1. Open a window or turn on local exhaust ventilation and leave the room (and restrict access) for at least 15 minutes.
2. Remove all materials you can without using a vacuum cleaner.
   • Wear disposable rubber gloves, if available (do not use your bare hands).
   • Carefully scoop up the fragments and powder with stiff paper or cardboard.
   • Wipe the area clean with a damp paper towel or disposable wet wipe.
   • Sticky tape (such as duct tape) can be used to pick up small pieces and powder.
3. Place all clean up materials in a plastic bag and seal it. Contact the Office of Environmental Health and Safety at 862-4041 to dispose the bag as Hazardous Waste.
4. If needed, use a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) filtered vacuum cleaner to clean the space where the bulb was broken. Dispose of the vacuum bag as Hazardous Waste.