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# Recycling



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## **CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1989**

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB939) was signed into law by the Governor of California on September 29, 1989. AB939 requires each city and counties in the State of California to divert 25% of its waste stream by 1995 and 50% by 2000. [Public Resources Code (PRC), Section 41780] AB939, states that each city and counties in the State of California to manage waste disposal through the implementation of the Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE). The SRRE was adopted in December 1993. Under the Source Reduction and Recycling Element counties are required to demonstrate how counties would achieve the mandated diversion goals through the implementation of diversion programs. The diversion programs that the County of Imperial agreed to implement in order to meet these diversion goals are as follows:

1. Agriculture Plastic
2. Compost Operation
3. Procurement Policy
4. Christmas Tree Diversion
5. Commercial Source and Recycling
6. Construction and Demolition
7. School Recycling
8. County Waste Reduction Policy



### [Electronic and Universal Waste Recycling](#)

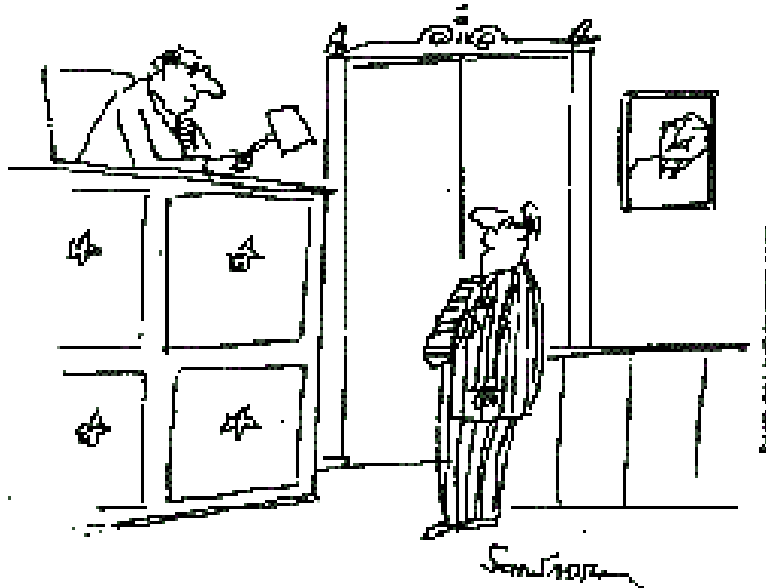
**The County's Recycling Program for the unincorporated area includes:**

[Electronic and Universal Waste Recycling](#) (Batteries, computer and television monitors, wireless phones, computer processing units, printers and more)

For further information consult Recycling Guide in the SBC Telephone Directory for Imperial County. This guide provides information where to take the recyclable items.



County of Imperial *Building Roads into the Next Century*  
**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**



**But your Honor, I had no idea I couldn't throw that in the trash!**

***ALERT: As of February 9, 2006, it is **ILLEGAL** to put Certain types of hazardous materials in the trash***

**These Include:**

**Common batteries** – AA, AAA, C cells, D cells and button batteries containing corrosive chemicals.

**Fluorescent tubes & bulbs and mercury – containing lamps** – They contain mercury vapor, a toxic metal

**Thermostats** – There is mercury inside the sealed glass switch in old thermostats

**Electronic devices** – TVs, computer monitors, computers, printers, VCRs, cell phones, telephones, radios and microwave ovens often contain heavy metals, including lead

**Electrical switches and relays** – These contain mercury

**Pilot light sensors** – These often contain mercury

**Mercury gauges** – These include barometers, manometers, blood pressure and vacuum gauges.

**Novelties with mercury added** – This includes greeting cards that play music when opened, old athletic shoes with flashing lights in the sole, and mercury maze games

**Mercury thermometers** – These typically contain about a half gram of mercury

**Aerosol cans that are not empty** – Aerosol cans labeled TOXIC or FLAMMABLE may not

be put in the trash if they are not completely empty

## Household Hazardous Waste Program

### Safe Disposal of Universal Waste

#### What is Universal Waste?

Universal waste (U-waste) is a type of hazardous waste that is generated by residents and businesses alike. U-waste is very common and poses a lower risk to people and the environment than other hazardous wastes. It is now being regulated under California's "Universal Waste Rule," which requires the recycling\* of most types of U-waste.

(\*Please note: Although most universal wastes are "recyclable," they do not belong in your blue solid waste recycling bin. These wastes currently must be taken to proper facilities for recycling.)



#### Examples of Universal Waste

- Common Batteries (AA, AAA, C cells, D cells and button cell batteries)
- Electronic Devices such as: Computer and television monitors, wireless phones, computer processing units, printers, VCRs and microwave ovens
- Fluorescent light tubes and bulbs
- High intensity discharge lamps
- Mercury switches
- Mercury thermometers
- Mercury thermostats
- Non-empty aerosol cans

#### How should I dispose of my U-waste?

- If you live in one of the unincorporated areas of the County, disposal information is available at: Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facilities
- If you live in a City please contact the Imperial Valley Waste Management Task Force for further information



#### Resources

P:/worddocs/fact sheet recycling

- California Department of Toxic Substances Control: [Universal Waste General Information](#)
- California Integrated Waste Management Board: [Universal Waste Publications](#)
- [Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facilities](#)

## **Internet & Local Resources**

### **General**

Imperial Valley Waste Management Task Force  
[www.ivwmtf.org](http://www.ivwmtf.org)

California Integrated Waste Management Board  
[www.ciwmb.ca.gov/HHW](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/HHW)

CIWMB Electronic Product Management Directory  
<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Electronics/Collection/default.asp>

Californians Against Waste  
<http://www.cawrecycles.org/cms/>

Department of Toxic Substances Control  
<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/>

EARTH 911  
<http://california.earth911.org/>

1800 Cleanup  
[www.1800cleanup.org](http://www.1800cleanup.org)

Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition, Poison PCs/Toxic TVs  
<http://www.svtc.org/cleancc/pubs/poisonpc.htm>

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
<http://www.epa.gov/>

RecycleLights, Universal Waste Recycling  
<http://www.recyclelights.com/index.php>

Zero Waste California  
<http://www.zerowaste.ca.gov/>

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### **Appliances**

Appliance Repair Clinic-great pictures to identify parts but not too useable in the field  
<http://www.repairclinic.com/0003.asp>

Freon Free  
<http://www.freonfree.netfirms.com/>

Repair Clinic  
P:/worddocs/fact sheet recycling

<http://www.repairclinic.com/>

Search for Part name-like compressor, switch  
<http://www.appliancepartsworldwide.com/Search/default.asp>

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### **Batteries**

Brodings Batteries Warehouse of El Centro  
[www.brodings.com](http://www.brodings.com)

New Technology Batteries Guide: Available Batter Types  
<http://www.nlectc.org/txtfiles/batterguide/ba-type.htm>

Batter Recycling and Disposal Guide for Households  
<http://www.ehso.com/ehshome/batteries.php>

Batter Solutions, Inc. Battery Recycling  
<http://www.batterrecycling.com/?src=google>

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### **Electronics Recycling Links**

Electronic Industries Alliance  
<http://www.eia.org/>

Envirocycle, Inc.  
<http://www.enviroinc.com/>

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### **Fluorescent Lamps**

AERC (mail back program with prepaid boxes)  
<http://www.aercrecycling.com/>

LampRecycle.org  
<http://www.lamprecycle.org/>

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### **Household Hazardous Waste Online Resources**

Local Household Hazardous Waste Websites:

Alameda County

<http://household-hazwaste.org/>

Alpine County

<http://www.co.alpine.ca.us/dept/health/eh.html>

Amador County

<http://www.co.amador.ca.us/depts/waste/index.htm>

Butte County

<http://www.recyclebutte.net/hhw.html>

Calaveras

[http://www.ccsolidwaste.org/hazardous\\_waste.htm](http://www.ccsolidwaste.org/hazardous_waste.htm)

Calusa

Contra Costa County

<http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/depart/cd/recycle/options/v5951.htm>

West Contra Costa County

<http://www.recyclemore.com/article.asp?key=3>

Central Contra Costa County

<http://www.centrsan.org/services/hhwcf.html>

Del Norte

<http://www.northcoast.com/~recycle/recycling.html>

Fresno

[http://www.fresno.gov/public\\_utilities/solidwaste/solidwaste.asp](http://www.fresno.gov/public_utilities/solidwaste/solidwaste.asp)

Glenn County

[http://www.countyofglenn.net/Solid\\_Waste/home\\_page.asp](http://www.countyofglenn.net/Solid_Waste/home_page.asp)

Humboldt County

<http://www.co.humboldt.ca.us/health/envhealth/iwm/default.asp?url=resources.html>

Imperial County

<http://imperial.ca.gov/services.htm>

Kern County

<http://www.co.kern.ca.us/wmd/Services/Hazardous/hazardous.html>

Kings County

[http://www.co.kings.ca.us/health/ehs/haz\\_household.htm](http://www.co.kings.ca.us/health/ehs/haz_household.htm)

Lake County

[http://www.co.lake.ca.us/countygovernment/public\\_services/hazmobileevent.html](http://www.co.lake.ca.us/countygovernment/public_services/hazmobileevent.html)

Lassen

<http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/Departments/Resource/mgmt/drm/cesinfo.htm>

Los Angeles County

<http://ladpw.org/epd/hhw/schedule.cfm>

Los Angeles, City of

<http://www.lacity.org/SAN/hhw.htm>

Madera

<http://www.madera-county.com/envhealth/index.html>

Marin

[http://www.marinrecycles.org/about\\_ipa.cfm](http://www.marinrecycles.org/about_ipa.cfm)

Mariposa

Mendocino

<http://www.mendorecycle.org/haz.htm>

Merced

<http://www.mercedrecycles.com/>

Modoc-Public Works (530) 233-6405

Mono

<http://www.monohealth.com/eh.html>

Monterey

<http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/health/EnvironmentalHealth/recycling.htm>

Napa

<http://www.co.napa.ca.us/FileFrame.asp?Title=Document&Section=gov&ExtURL=/GOV/Departments/40500/Linked/HHW%20Information.pdf>

Nevada

<http://new.mynevadacounty.com/iwm/index.cfm>

Orange

<http://www.oilandfills.com/hhwcc.asp>

Placer

<http://www.wpwma.com/hhw.htm>

Plumas

[http://www.countyofplumas.com/publicworks/plumas\\_county\\_recycling\\_info.htm](http://www.countyofplumas.com/publicworks/plumas_county_recycling_info.htm)

Riverside County

[http://www.rivcowm.org/HHW/hhw\\_02.htm](http://www.rivcowm.org/HHW/hhw_02.htm)

**Refrigerant**

Refrigerant Requirements with Technician  
<http://www.epa.gov/ozone/title6/608/608fact.html#overview>

Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Repair  
<http://www.biopatent.com/ac.html>

EPA: Safe Disposal Requirements for Household Appliances  
<http://www.epa.gov/ozone/title6/608/disposal/household.html>

Refrigerants for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century  
<http://www.chemcases.com/fluoro/fluoro03.htm>

University of Wisconsin, leaking sulfur dioxide refrigerator  
<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/EHSRM/CAMPUS/BOLL/>

<http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/EHSRM/HAZEXCEPTIONS/wg.html>

Refrigeration Course and Introduction to Refrigeration  
<http://www.free-ed.net/sweethaven/MechTech/Refrigeration/>

Refrigerants Application Guide McQuay  
[http://www.mcquay.com/mcquaybiz/literature/lit\\_corporate/AppGuide/AG31-007.pdf](http://www.mcquay.com/mcquaybiz/literature/lit_corporate/AppGuide/AG31-007.pdf)

Seventy Years of Safety, Fluorocarbon Refrigerants: The history of an Era: 1929-1999  
[http://www.dupont.com/suva/emea/pdf/ref\\_history.pdf](http://www.dupont.com/suva/emea/pdf/ref_history.pdf)

Ammonia Refrigerant Gas: A Safety Training Resource  
<http://www.sito.co.nz/doclibrary/public/resources/AmmoniaTrainingResource.pdf>

Air-conditioning and Refrigeration Institute  
<http://www.air.org/>

American Society of Heating Air-Conditioning and Refrigeration Engineers

Direct Link to ASHRAE's monthly journal Magazine  
<http://www.ashrae.org/>  
<http://www.ashraejournal.org/>

U.S. Department of Energy  
<http://www.doe.gov/>

Environment Canada  
<http://www.ec.gc.ca/>

ARTI is the research group for ARI  
<http://www.arti-21cr.org>

Atofina, Manufacturer of refrigerants  
<http://www.atofinachemicals.com/>

United Nations International Institute of Ammonia Refrigeration  
<http://www.iiar.org/>  
<http://www.un.org/>

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Joint Group set up by United Nations and World Meteorological Organization  
<http://www.ipcc.ch/>

European refrigerant policy  
<http://www.europa.eu.int/>

McQuay International  
<http://www.mcquay.com/>

International Institute of Refrigeration  
<http://www.iiifir.org/>

National Institute of Standards and Technology  
<http://www.nist.gov/>

Sacramento County  
<http://www.sacgrennteam.com/hazardous/default.htm>

San Benito County  
[http://www.san-benito.ca.us/departments/iwm/household\\_haz\\_waste.htm](http://www.san-benito.ca.us/departments/iwm/household_haz_waste.htm)

San Bernardino County  
<http://www.sbcfire.org/hazmat/hhw.asp>

San Diego County  
<http://www.sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/chd/hhw/home.html>

San Francisco County  
<http://temp.sfgov.org/sfenvironment/aboutus/toxics/pickup.htm>

# ***Universal Wastes to be Prohibited From Disposal***

## **Questions and Answers on Requirements for Handling Universal Wastes\***

**1. What has changed?** Until February 8, 2006 households and some small businesses are allowed to put waste batteries, electronic devices, and fluorescent light bulbs in the trash. Homeowners were also allowed to throw away mercury-containing thermostats until this date. After February 8, these items, called universal wastes are prohibited from being placed in the trash.

**2. What are universal wastes and why can't I put them in the trash?** Universal wastes are hazardous wastes that are generated by several sectors of society, rather than a single industry or type of businesses. Hazardous wastes contain harmful chemicals, which, if put in the trash may harm people or the environment.

### ***Universal wastes include:***

Common Batteries, Fluorescent Tubes and Bulbs and Other Mercury-Containing Lamps, Thermostats, Electronic Devices, Electrical Switches and Relays, Pilot Light Sensors, Mercury Gauges, Mercury Thermometers, and Non-Empty Aerosol Cans that Contain Hazardous Materials.

**3. What happens if I throw universal waste in the garbage?** Like used motor oil and paint, universal waste is a kind of hazardous waste. It is illegal to dispose of hazardous waste in the garbage. In addition, by throwing universal waste in the garbage, you can cause additional hazards to your garbage handler. Eventually, chemicals in illegally disposed hazardous waste can be released into the environment and contaminate our air, water and possibly the food we eat.

**4. How do I know if a particular electronic device can't be thrown in the trash?** DTSC has tested many electronic devices including: tube-type and flat panel televisions and computer monitors, laptop computers, computers (CPUs), printers, radios, microwave ovens, VCRs, cell phones, cordless phones, and telephone answering machines. The devices that DTSC tested contained concentrations of metals (lead and copper) high enough to make them hazardous wastes when they are discarded. Unless you are sure they are not hazardous, you should presume these types of devices need to be recycled or disposed of as hazardous waste and that they may not be thrown in the trash. For additional assistance, you can call the Waste Evaluation help line at (619) 322-7676.

### **Other resources:**

**DTSC's web page on universal wastes –**

<http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/UniversalWaste/index.cfm>

**California Integrated Waste Management Board –**

<http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/WPIE/HazSub/UniWaste.htm>

**California Recycling -**

<http://www.recycle.ca.gov/>

\*The answers to these FAQ are intended to give general guidance to households. For specific requirements please see Title 22 California Code of Regulations section 66273 et seq. or check out the publications page on DTSC's web site: [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)

\*\*small businesses are classified as a Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators (CESQG) who generates no more than a total of 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month.

