Safe Universal Waste (Ohio)

Universal waste is a subset of hazardous waste that is less regulated. This makes these wastes less of a regulatory burden on your business and promotes proper recycling or disposal of batteries, pesticides, fluorescent bulbs, and mercury-containing thermostats. In Ohio, there are three new wastes that fall under the new Universal Waste rules: Non-empty aerosol cans, hazardous antifreeze, and hazardous paint and paint related waste.

Handler Categories

Types of handlers:

- Large quantity handler of universal waste (LQHUW) = or > 5,000 kg total at any time
- Small quantity handler of universal waste (SQHUW) < 5,000 Kg total at any time

Small quantity handlers are not required to register with Ohio EPA and have fewer requirements than large quantity handlers.

Universal Waste Containers

The container for each type of UW must meet the following criteria:



- The container remains closed
- The container is structurally sound
- The container is compatible with the UW
- The container lacks evidence of leaks, spillage, or damage that could cause leakage



Labeling, Time Limits, and Training

Labeling:

- "Universal Waste + Type"
- Month/day/year the waste became a waste (by container, storage area, or inventory)
- LQHUW and SQHUW are both allowed to store universal waste onsite for up to a year
- Handlers of Universal Waste shall inform all employees who handle or have responsibility for managing universal waste the proper handling and emergency procedures appropriate to the types of universal waste handled at the facility
- Generators can send universal waste to another generator or a destination facility
- A hazardous waste manifest is not required and records are not required
- Export requirements do apply

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