Management of Spent Mercury-Containing Lamps and Devices

Businesses operating in Lee County must recycle fluorescent tubes and other mercury-containing devices in accordance with Florida Administrative Code 62-737.400.

If these lamps or devices are not recycled they must be counted as a hazardous waste. Cradle to grave responsibility is applicable.

Lamps Listed: High Pressure/Low Pressure Lighting, Fluorescent Tubes, High Intensity Discharge Lamps, Metal Halide, Mercury Vapor Lamps, High Pressure Sodium Lamps and Neon Lamps containing mercury.

Devices listed: Thermometers, Manometers, Ampoules from Thermostats, Electric Mercury Switches and Relays, and any other device which contains liquid mercury.

DO:

- Label boxes “Universal Waste” and mark “Mercury Containing Lamps Destined for Recycling”
- Package lamps tightly, without separators or any other packaging
- Empty boxes of all packing material before refilling
- Count lamps
- Label boxes with company name and lamp count
- Use original manufacturer’s box or proper box size (8 foot = 12”x12”x96” and 4 foot = 12”x12”x48”)
- If lamps are broken, place in box, wrap and tie with plastic bag
- Keep lamps dry
- Use pallets if possible
- Complete shipping papers (bill lading or packing slip)
- Make sure you receive a receipt
- Keep receipt on file for three years
- Train ALL employees in the proper handling of mercury containing lamps

DO NOT:

- Pack different lengths together
- Send partly filled boxes
- Tape lamps to each other
- Allow ANY debris in with the lamps
- Ship repaired or taped containers
- Allow lamp boxes to get wet

Lamps identified as containing mercury.

For further information, contact Lee County Pollution Prevention Program at 239-652-6126.