

Environmental Standard Operating Procedure (ESOP)	
Universal Waste (UVW)	
Environmental Affairs (EA): Hazardous Waste Management Branch (HWMB) 830-7244/5403	Revised: 1 October 2024

Subject: UNIVERSAL WASTE

References: (a) Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Title 40  
 (b) California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 22  
 (c) Marine Corps Order (MCO) 5090.2  
 (d) Integrated Contingency and Operations Plan  
 (e) Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC), Hazardous Waste Operations Manual

1. Purpose. This document provides environmental protection guidelines for the proper handling, storage, and disposal of universal waste.
2. Application. This guidance applies to those personnel who are handling, storing, and disposing of universal waste aboard Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC), Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) Twentynine Palms. For further references to MAGTFTC, MCAGCC in this document, the term "installation" will be used.
3. Procedures. The storage and handling of universal waste must be properly managed to prevent harm to human health and the environment.

Universal waste is a category of waste materials designated as "hazardous waste," but containing materials that are very common. Universal Waste is defined in 40 CFR 273.9. by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and apply to five types of universal wastes. Additionally, the California Environmental Protection Agency has enacted regulations regarding universal waste management. These regulations are intended to protect human health and the environment, and foster resource conservation.

Universal waste includes the following:

- Batteries, such as lithium, alkaline, nickel metal hydride battery, silver ion, nickel cadmium, or lead acid
- Toner cartridges
- Mercury-containing equipment, such as thermostats or thermometers
- Lamps, including but not limited to fluorescent, high-intensity discharge, neon, mercury vapor, high-pressure sodium, and metal halide lamps
- Aerosol cans, such as spray paints, lubricants, solvents, and adhesives

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California also classifies the following items as universal waste:

- **Electronic devices:** Any electronic equipment with or without a CRT, such as cell phones, telephones, computer central processing units, printers, videocassette recorders, and portable DVD players that exhibits hazardous waste characteristics.
- **Photovoltaic modules:** Modules include any device consisting of, or containing, one or more electrically connected photovoltaic cells that are designed to convert solar radiation into electrical energy.

4. Operational Controls. The following procedures apply:

a. Proper Identification and Labeling

Contact the Environmental Affairs' Hazardous Waste Management Branch via phone at (760) 830-7244/5402 for programmatic support and guidance for including container support and labeling requirements.

b. Storage Requirements

- Store universal waste in a secure area to prevent breakage or leaks
- Keep containers closed when not adding or removing waste
- Separate different types of universal waste to prevent cross contamination

5. Record Keeping: There is no inspection record retention associated with this practice.

6. Training and Awareness: Train personnel on proper handling, storage, disposal, and emergency procedures related to universal waste. Confirm that employees understand the risks associated with specific types of universal waste (for example, lead acid batteries.)

7. Emergency Preparedness and Response Procedures. Refer to the Combat Center Order 5090.5C and Integrated Contingency and Operations Plan for MCAGCC.

8. Inspection and Corrective Action. The Environmental Compliance Coordinator (ECC) will confirm unit adherence to this ESOP. The ECC will confirm that unit personnel are trained in this ESOP and maintain appropriate documentation in accordance with this ESOP.