

# NOT IN THE TRASH!

## MANY WASTE ITEMS CANNOT GO IN THE TRASH CAN



Many common products that we use daily contain potentially hazardous ingredients and require special care when disposed of. **It is illegal to dispose of hazardous waste in the garbage, down storm drains, or onto the ground.** Chemicals in illegally disposed hazardous waste can be released into the environment and contaminate our air, water, and possibly the food we eat. And by throwing hazardous waste in the garbage, you can cause additional hazards to your garbage handler.

Regulations to protect public health and the environment have been changing. This is because we now know that some common items that have traditionally been thrown in your trash cannot be safely disposed in landfills.

**These common items are referred to as hazardous waste, and some of them as "universal waste".**

As of February 9, 2006, all "universal waste" items are banned from the trash. For additional information on universal waste, please check the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) Web site.

**The bottom line is that we must keep hazardous materials out of the trash by turning them in to your Departmental HAZMAT Representative.**

## WHAT IS BANNED?

### Mercury Containing Items, Such As:

- Electrical Switches and Relays
- Old-Style Thermostats
- Pilot Light Sensors
- Mercury Gauges
- Thermometers

- Fluorescent lights
- All Batteries
- Computer Monitors and TVs
- Tires
- Antifreeze
- Compressed Gas Cylinders
- PCB-Containing Materials
- Photo waste (Silver Bearings)
- Printer Toner Cartridges

- Flammables and poisons
- Acids, Oxidizers, and Bases
- Pesticides and Herbicides
- Paint (Oil and Latex)
- Aerosol Cans
- Solvents
- Asbestos
- Treated Wood
- Motor Oil and Filters

## How do I know if a particular electronic device can't be thrown in the trash?

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) has tested many electronic devices including: tube-type and flat panel televisions and computer monitors, laptop computers, computers central processing units (CPU), printers, radios, microwave ovens, video cassette recorders (VCR), 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.