

FACILITIES, PLANNING, & MANAGEMENT

Waste Disposal Guidelines

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13,
2026

Material / Service	What do I do?	Notes	Whom do I contact?
Fluorescent Light Bulbs (LED, Sodium, Halogen, large Incandescent)	Call Stores for pick-up. For very small quantities, contact US &A for pick up	Facility Services staff change bulbs. Bulbs are Universal Waste and should be handled according to Universal Waste Rules.	Stores: 414-229-5316 US&A 414-550-9190
Sharps (Needles, razor blades, scalpels, etc.)	Sharps containers are in most first floor restrooms.	DO NOT place in regular trash	US&A 414-550-9190
Broken Glass and Plasticware (Non-infectious only: pipette tips, fragile, broken glass)	Package non-infectious materials in a sturdy cardboard box. Seal with tape. Mark box "Broken Glass". Set out box for ES pick-up.	Box size not to exceed 18x12x10 inches. (e.g. copy paper box is acceptable)	Environmental Services 414-229-6466
Laser Toner/Ink Jet Cartridges (fax machines, printers, some copiers)	Send back to the supplier. Use pre-paid shipping stickers that accompany the cartridge or follow supplier's directions Contact Print and Copy Services.	Cartridges are manufactured for reuse. Departmental copier toner cartridges should be saved and collected by Print and Copy Services.	Print & Copy Services 414-229-6224 US&A 414-550-9190
Aerosol Cans	Call for pick -up	US&A handles aerosols according to Universal Waste Rules	US&A 414-550-9190
Used Oil/Antifreeze	Call for pick -up	US&A recycles used oil, filters and antifreeze. Do not mix other wastes with oil/antifreeze	US&A 414-550-9190
Unwanted Chemicals	Create an inventory of all the chemicals for disposal. Make sure all chemicals are labeled with proper chemical name. Call for pick-up	It is very expensive for the University to dispose of unidentified chemicals	US&A 414-550-9190
Mercury	Call for pick -up	Mercury can be reclaimed and recycled	US&A 414-550-9190
Compressed Gas Cylinders	Transport to loading dock for vendor pick-up	For lecture cylinders, call US&A	US&A 414-550-9190
Acid Waste	Neutralize through your department	Neutralize through your department	US&A 414-550-9190
Batteries	Collect Nickel-Cadmium, Lithium Ion, Nickel metal hydride, Lead acid and Lead gel-cell batteries	Heavy metals are reclaimed and recycled. Alkaline batteries may be placed in regular trash.	US&A 414-550-9190
Contaminated Labware	Collect, bag and label labware. (gloves, wipes, pipette tips)	Collect labware for Toxic materials	US&A 414-550-9190
Solvent-Soaked Rags	Collect rags in fire-resistant containers/drums and keep closed when not in use.	Collect rags soaked with solvents, dyes, oils and paints.	US&A 414-550-9190
Asbestos Containing Equipment/Waste	Call Facility Services for pick up	Requires special hazardous materials handling	Facility Services 414-229-4576
Waste Solvents	Place solvent in labeled container and keep closed. Call US&A for pick up	Waste solvents can be bulked to save on disposal costs.	US&A 414-550-9190
Paint	Call US&A for pick up	Unusable latex paint can be dried and tossed in the trash	US&A 414-550-9190

Photographic Fixer	Collect fixer in containers provided by US&A. Call for pick up	Silver is reclaimed from spent photographic fixer.	US&A 414-550-9190
Peroxide Forming Chemicals	Date chemicals upon receipt. Test chemicals frequently for peroxides.	Peroxide-forming chemicals can be very dangerous and expensive to dispose/handle.	US&A 414-550-9190
Radioactive Waste	Questions regarding disposal of radioactive materials should be directed to the Radiation Safety Program.	The Radiation Safety Program manages the safe use of radioactive material via training, laboratory audits, surveys, radionuclide control and inventory, personal dosimetry and waste disposal.	US&A 414-430-7507
Household Hazardous Waste	Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) sponsors local "Clean Sweeps" which usually start in the spring and travel to different counties throughout the summer. For information on times and dates, please refer to MMSD's website at www.mmsd.com	UWM cannot accept Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) because of the disposal costs. Please utilize local "Clean Sweeps" to handle the disposal of HHW responsibly.	MMSD 414-225-2066 www.mmsd.com Veolia operates two collection facilities in Menomonee Falls & Franklin. Check MMSD website.
Empty Containers	Place in regular trash.	If container has some residue, it still is considered empty and may be placed in the trash.	US&A 414-550-9190
Surplus Equipment (Furniture, office supplies, etc.)	Contact UWM Sustainability Surplus Declaration Fee applies.	All unwanted furniture & equipment needs to be declared Surplus and cannot be thrown away. Fill out UWM Surplus Declaration form.	Sustainability/Surplus 414-229-3465
Electronic Waste (Computers, CRT's, microwaves, televisions, etc.)	Fill out Surplus Declaration (see Surplus Equipment)	Do not place electronic equipment into the regular trash. Equipment is recycled through the Surplus Program.	Sustainability 414-229-3465
Ballasts	Recycle electronic ballasts through Surplus. Collect oil-containing ballasts and call for pick up by US&A.	Ballasts manufactured before 1981 contain PCB oil. These must be handled as hazardous waste through US&A.	Sustainability/Surplus 414-229-3465 US&A 414-550-9190
White Goods (Fridges & Freezers)	Fill out Surplus Declaration (see Surplus Equipment)	Freon is recovered and recycled.	Sustainability 414-229-3465
Pallets	Transport on or near loading dock for Grounds to pick-up	Grounds will transfer pallets to USRB	Sustainability 414-229-3465
Bulk Recycling (Paper, Journals, Books)	Contact Campus Recycling at konitze2@uwm.edu .	Support for office clean-outs, retirements. Service is free for 1 or 2 carts at a time.	Sustainability Konitze2@uwm.edu
Confidential Shredding	Contact Environmental Services for bin location.	To have a bin delivered to your department for a fee, a service request must be completed.	Environmental Services 414-229-6466
Plastic Film (Plastic bags, plastic film, plastic mailing sleeves)	Specialty collection bins are located across campus. Contact Konitze2@uwm.edu to host a bin.	Plastic bags and film cannot be placed in blue recycling bins on campus.	Sustainability Konitze2@uwm.edu
Blue Bin / Hallway Recycling	Break down and flatten cardboard. Empty bottles and cans.	Blue bin recycling is for The Core Four : Cardboard, paper, bottles & cans	Sustainability Konitze2@uwm.edu