



UCCS SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE

21. ITEMS PROHIBITED FROM TRASH CANS AND DUMPSTERS

(For assistance, please contact [Environmental Health & Safety](#))

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS MAY NOT BE PLACED IN TRASHCANS OR DUMPSTERS at UCCS due to restrictions on disposal at the municipal solid waste landfill or other regulations. If you find any of these items in the garbage, please contact [EH&S](#) at (719) 255-3201 (during normal business hours), or Public Safety Dispatch (719) 255-3111 (nights, weekends, and holidays). If you have questions about other items that may or may not be placed in the trash, please contact [EH&S](#) for assistance.

*A specific SOP for items **with an asterisk** may be found on the [EH&S web site](#).

| ITEMS PROHIBITED FROM TRASH | WHAT TO DO |
|--|---|
| *Aerosol cans See AEROSOLS SOP 2 | Contact Facilities Management |
| Appliances | Contact Facilities Management |
| *Asbestos-containing materials See ASBESTOS SOP 3. | Contact Facilities Management |
| *Bags, boxes and other items that once held radioactive material and are labeled as with the word "Radioactive" or the tri-foil symbol. See BIOHAZARDS SOP 5. | Contact EH&S |
| *Batteries – lead acid, Ni-cad, or other recyclable See BATTERIES SOP 4. | Return to vendor or place in battery recycling container |
| *Compressed gas cylinders See COMPRESSED GAS SOP 17. | Return to vendor; if refused contact EH&S |
| *Computer and electronic equipment and components See COMPUTERS & ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT SOP 16. | Contact Facilities Management |
| *Dead wild animals See DEAD ANIMALS SOP 20. | Contact Facilities Management |

| ITEMS PROHIBITED FROM TRASH | WHAT TO DO |
|---|---|
| *Electrical switches and dials containing mercury. Non-mercury electronic switches and dials should be handled as “computer and electronic equipment and components” See MERCURY SOP 37. | Contact EH&S |
| *Fluorescent lights See LAMPS & LIGHT BULBS SOP 34. | Contact Facilities Management |
| *Latex paint containers containing paint that is not dried See PAINT & PAINT-RELATED MATERIALS SOP 39. | Contact EH&S |
| *Non-infectious needles and sharps ¹ See SHARPS SOP 51. | Containerize in rigid, puncture-resistant container, seal & label “Sharps,” place in dumpster |
| *Non-living animals or preserved specimens used for research or teaching purposes See BIOHAZARDS SOP 5. | Utilize contract biohazard vendor or contact EH&S |
| Office furniture | Contact Facilities Management |
| *Oil-based paint, paintbrushes and paint-related materials See PAINT & PAINT-RELATED MATERIALS SOP 39. | Contact EH&S |
| *PCB ballasts and transformers. See PCB’s SOP 43. | Contact EH&S |
| Pesticides, fertilizers and other agricultural chemicals, or empty containers of these that have NOT been triple-rinsed or processed in accordance with label directions. | Return to the manufacturer; if refused contact EH&S |
| *Petroleum oil See USED OIL SOP 55. | Contact oil recycling vendor, if refused contact EH&S |

¹ Even when non-infectious, broken glass, needles, knives, razor blades and other “sharps” can be hazardous to persons handling trash. For this reason, if at all possible, turn “sharps” over to a facility with appropriate sharps disposal containers (Student Health Clinic, Beth-El College of Nursing and Health Science, Biology).

| ITEMS PROHIBITED FROM TRASH | WHAT TO DO |
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| Propane cylinders | Return to vendor, if refused contact EH&S |
| *Radioactive materials, any materials marked with See RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS SOP 49. | Contact EH&S |
| **"Red bag waste", including boxes, and other items labeled "Biohazardous," needles and sharps, bloody gauze, bandages, towels, clothes, other like items or anything marked with See BIOHAZARD SOP 5. (UNTREATED WASTE ONLY.) | Utilize contract biohazard vendor or contact EH&S |
| Scrap metal | Contact Facilities Management |
| Scrap tires | Contact Facilities Management |
| Smoke detectors that contain a radioactive source | Return to the manufacturer; if refused contact EH&S |
| *Thermostats containing mercury. Electronic thermostats should be handled as "computer and electronic equipment and components" See MERCURY SOP 37. | Contact EH&S |
| *Used and excess chemicals See HAZARDOUS WASTE SOP 27. | Contact EH&S |
| Vegetable oil | Recycle through local dealer; if refused contact EH&S |
| Wet wastes, or sludge wastes that could drip or leak | Contact EH&S |
| Yard waste | Contact Facilities Management |

Last reviewed by Cynthia Norton on December 11, 2015.