

## **USED BULBS** **ACCUMULATION AREA**

Most fluorescent bulbs at IUB are managed as Universal Waste. This includes the standard overhead lighting fixture tubes that generally come in 4, 6, or 8 foot lengths as well as oddly shaped light tubes and compact fluorescent bulbs. It also includes high pressure sodium bulbs like those used in large outdoor lighting fixtures and automobile lights as well as mercury vapor and HID bulbs like those used in projectors.

### **GENERAL RULES:**

Make sure that all containers are in good condition and able to close properly before adding any material to them.

Keep all universal waste containers closed after materials have been added to them.

Keep a clean work area and clean up spills promptly when they occur.

### **PACKAGING:**

Fluorescent Tubes – Use the boxes that the bulbs came in or circular fiber drums provided by the disposal vendor to put the used bulbs in. Make sure to use a box or drum that is long enough to fully cover the entire length of the bulbs in the container.

Compact Fluorescent Bulbs, High Pressure Sodium Bulbs, Mercury Vapor Bulbs, and HID Bulbs (such as projector bulbs) – Use the boxes that the bulbs came in or another box or container that will hold the bulb(s) and provide enough cushioning to prevent breakage.

### **LABELING:**

Make sure that all labels and markings from previous users have been removed from containers or marked out completely.

Make sure each container is labeled with the words “**Universal Waste Bulbs**” and the date as soon as the first bulb is added to the container.

### **ACCUMULATION TIME LIMIT:**

Bulb containers must be disposed within 1 year from the time the first bulb is added to the container. Because some time is needed to prepare and arrange offsite shipments, bulb containers should be removed from accumulation areas within 9 months of their initial opening.

Once a container is full or has been open for 9 months, remove the bulbs to a central storage area for shipment, contact a removal contractor for disposal, or request a pickup from EHS if applicable using the link at [www.ehs.iu.edu](http://www.ehs.iu.edu).

## **BROKEN BULBS:**

If a bulb breaks that is not an incandescent bulb or a “green” fluorescent bulb, which is non-regulated from a hazardous waste standpoint, then the debris must be handled as a hazardous waste. Clean up the broken bulb according to the procedures provided by EHS and place the debris into a closed box or bucket and follow the procedures for hazardous waste in Section 6.5 of the Hazardous Waste Management Guide located on [www.ehs.iu.edu](http://www.ehs.iu.edu). Request a waste pickup for the cleanup debris by clicking on the pickup request link on the EHS website.

*\* For a list of “green” bulbs, contact EHS.*