

# How To Handle Universal Waste

## Train

Employees who handle universal waste require training, and the training should be documented.

## Containerize

Accumulate cans in a container that is structurally sound, compatible with the contents of the cans, lacks evidence of leakage and is protected from sources of heat.

## Label

All individual cans or containers must be correctly labeled as “Universal Waste – Aerosol Cans,” “Waste Aerosol Cans” or “Used Aerosol Cans.”

## Date

Containers or individual items must be labeled with the date when the first aerosol can was placed in the container or the date when the user decided the aerosol can was waste.

## Remove

Aerosol cans must be removed from the facility for recycling within one year of the date on the container or individual item.

### If puncturing and draining aerosol cans the following requirements must be met:

- Punctured and drained cans must be recycled.
- Use a device designed to safely puncture cans and capture and contain the contents and emissions.
- Retain a copy on site of the manufacturer’s specification and instructions for this device.
- Develop, maintain, and train staff to follow a written procedure on how to safely puncture and drain cans.
- Ensure that puncturing is done in a manner to prevent fires and releases, including locating the puncturing unit on a solid, flat surface in a well-ventilated area.
- Clean up all spills promptly and keep a written spill and release procedure and clean-up kit on-site.
- Contents captured during puncturing require a waste determination and must be held in a container or tank that meets applicable waste requirements.

## Aerosol Cans



**SCAN to learn more**



# Resources And Contact Information

## Applicable Wisconsin Administrative Codes: Aerosol Cans

NR 673.06, 673.30 Applicability

NR 673.09 Definitions

NR 673.13 (5), 673.33 (5) Containers

NR 673.14 (6), 673.34 (6) Labeling and marking

NR 673.15 (1), (2), (3); NR 673.35 (1), (2), (3) Accumulation time limits, dating, removal

NR 673.16, NR 673.36 Employee training

NR 673.17, 673.33, 673.37 Response to release

For more information on this subject, including other publications, staff contacts and administrative codes and statutes, go to [dnr.wi.gov](http://dnr.wi.gov) and search “universal waste.” Staff contact information can also be found by searching “hazardous waste requirements” in the [DNR staff directory](#).

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## Universal Waste Guidance and Reference Documents

Universal Waste Requirements (WA-1900)

Lamp and Bulb Management (WA-195)

How to Handle Universal Waste Poster (WA-1798)

How to Handle Universal Waste: Lamps (WA-1810)

How to Handle Universal Waste: Mercury-Containing Equipment (WA-1811)

How to Handle Universal Waste: Pesticides (WA-1812)

How to Handle Universal Waste: Aerosol Cans (WA-2049)



### Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Waste and Materials Management Program

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