

May 27, 2009



# HAZARDOUS WASTE MANUAL

## Procedure Cover Sheet

Procedure Title: Sampling Unknown Waste

Procedure Number: TSO-07-08-REV 0

Effective Date: 01 September, 2007

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## A. INTRODUCTION

The Universal Waste Rule permits certain hazardous wastes known as “universal wastes” to be managed under streamlined requirements. The rule is designed to encourage recycling and proper disposal of some common hazardous wastes and to reduce the regulatory burden on businesses that generate these wastes. Idaho has adopted the federal Universal Waste Rule described in 40 CFR 273, so Idaho’s requirements are identical to those of the federal government.

## B. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to describe the types of waste that fit into the category of Universal Waste.

## D. UNIVERSAL WASTES

Currently, four types of hazardous waste are considered Universal Waste.

### 1. *Batteries*

This group includes batteries such as nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) and small sealed lead-acid batteries, which are found in many common items including electronic equipment, portable computers, cell phones and emergency backup lighting.

### 2. *Agricultural Pesticides*

These are pesticides that have been recalled or banned from use, are obsolete, have become damaged, or are no longer needed due to changes in use.

### 3. *Spent Lamps*

This category includes lamps or bulbs that contain mercury or lead. Examples include fluorescent, high-intensity discharge (HID), neon, high-pressure sodium, mercury vapor, and metal halide lamps.

#### *4. Mercury-Containing Equipment*

These are mercury-containing equipment used in industry, hospitals, and households. Examples include barometers, manometers, temperature and pressure gauges, and mercury switches (such as light switches in automobiles). Also included in this category are mercury-containing thermostats, which can contain as much as three grams of liquid mercury and are located in almost any building, including commercial, industrial, agricultural, community, and household buildings.

Since these groups of waste are in the special category of universal waste, they do not require the same hazardous waste labeling necessary for other hazardous wastes. Instead, a label stating, "Universal Waste" and the type of waste should be attached to boxes or containers holding the universal waste.

May 27, 2009

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## **Sampling Instructions**

### **For All Samples**

- **Sample schedule:** Most samples accepted Monday through Friday 8am-5pm. Please call ahead for acceptance schedule for bacteria and BOD samples, especially near the Holidays.
- **Clearly label the sample container** with the sampling location, date and time. Use wax pencil or tape and a permanent pen.
- **Keep the sample refrigerated or cold,** if at all possible, until you submit it to the lab. This will help preserve the integrity of your sample.
- **Please complete the form** provided before submitting your sample to the lab. Be sure to indicate which tests are to be performed on which samples. If you have any questions, please ask one of our employees for help.

### **Soil, Sludges, and Oil**

As a general rule, samples should be collected in 4-ounce glass jars with Teflon lined caps. The jars should be completely filled to eliminate headspace, tightly capped, and immediately placed in a refrigerator or a cooler with ice until delivery to the laboratory. Some combinations of analyses may require more samples.

### **Water Samples**

#### **Bacteriological (Drinking Water)**

1. Select a clean faucet. Avoid collecting from a swivel or hinged faucet as bacteria re-growth can occur in the cracks.
2. Remove all screens, strainers, or aerators before taking the sample.
3. Allow water to run for five minutes before taking the sample.
4. Wash your hands thoroughly before opening the bottle.
5. **Do not rinse the bottle out!** It contains preservatives that may look like a powder or pellet.
6. Do not remove the cap from the bottle until just before taking the sample. Do not touch the inside of the lid or inside of the bottle with your fingers.
7. Fill the bottle  $\frac{3}{4}$  full.
8. **Samples must reach the laboratory within 30 hours of collections.** Please plan your sampling and delivery time accordingly.

#### **Volatile Organics (VOC's)**

1. Please do NOT open the sealed **Trip Blank**; return it with your samples.
2. VOC samples must be collected in **40 ml VOA Vials**. These samples must not contain any air bubbles.
3. You may wish to wear gloves as some vials contain a small amount of hydrochloric acid as a sample preservative.
4. Fill the vial under a slow stream of water until it overflows. The water should be domed at the top.
5. Gently replace the cap and tighten securely.
6. Turn the bottle upside down--there must be **no air bubbles** in the vial.

#### **Synthetic Organics (SOC's)**

- SOC sample bottles or vials usually contain a preservative. You may wish to wear gloves. **PLEASE DO NOT RINSE** the bottles out before sampling.
- **Vial** – Fill the vial under a slow stream of water until it overflows. The water should be domed at the top. Gently replace the cap and tighten securely. There must be **no air bubbles** in the vial.
- **Amber Glass Bottles**, 250ml or 1L- Fill bottles to the neck and replace cap securely.

#### **Inorganic (IOC's)**

##### **Lead/Copper (1 L HDPE plastic bottle)**

1. Allow the water to stand in the pipes for at least 8 hours before collecting the sample.
2. Collect the sample from a kitchen or bathroom cold-water faucet. Remove all screens, strainers or aerators before taking the sample.

May 27, 2009

3. Place the open sample bottle below the faucet and gently open the cold water tap. Fill the sample bottle to the neck and turn off the water.
4. Cap the bottle tightly.

**Other IOC's/Nitrates**

**Please note:** Nitrate samples must reach the lab within 36 hours of sampling. Please plan your sampling and delivery time accordingly.

1. Fill the bottle completely under a slow stream of water.
2. Tightly cap the sample bottle, label it with sample location, time and date and keep it cool until it reaches the lab.

May 27, 2009



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## REVISION TRACKER

Revision 0	September 1, 2007	Original Procedure
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