**Fluorescent Bulb Recycling**

All fluorescent bulbs, even those sold as “eco-friendly”, have trace amounts of mercury – a toxic heavy metal. Per EPA Rules and Arizona Guidelines we have established the following program for managing and handling spent mercury-containing waste lamps as Universal Waste. If we do not manage them correctly via the Universal Waste guidelines, we are required to handle them according to the more stringent Hazardous Waste guidelines. This program will be managed by the Environmental Sustainability Coordinator.

M&O will save, package and recycle their spent lamps via the following procedure:

1. Sustainability Coordinator will mark the area where lamps are stored and label each container with the following phrase, “Universal Waste Mercury Lamp(s)”. The starting accumulation date must be listed.
2. At Southern/Dobson, we have placed cardboard drums in compound area to maximize safe storage of bulbs until scheduled pickup. At DTC, place spent lamps in cardboard sleeve or box in which the replacement tubes or bulbs arrived, and then store the boxes where they cannot be easily broken during handling or storage. Containers of used lamps must be kept closed. Once one or two boxes have been filled, secure them and transport them to RDM or Southern/Dobson location for storage.
3. If tubes or bulbs are broken accidentally they also can be placed in box with other spent lamps. Universal waste rules do not allow lamp crushing at the generator, transporter, or collection points. Such activity is considered to be treatment, and would require a permit.
4. Spent lamps will be held (properly boxed and labeled) in a central location until scheduled pick up by pre-approved vendor. Arrangements will be made by Sustainability Coordinator and Vendor.
5. Vendor will invoice us as pickups are made. A Certificate of Recycling will be sent to MCC for each load processed, and vendor will keep a copy on file.

*Contact Sustainability Coordinator at* [recycle@mesacc.edu](mailto:recycle@mesacc.edu) *for any questions.*