Syracuse University
Environmental Health and Safety Services

Waste Lighting Ballasts Generator Guidance Document

Lighting ballasts come in many different shapes, sizes and types and may contain hazardous components (e.g. PCBs, lead, etc.) that cannot be disposed of in the regular trash. Environmental Health and Safety Services (EHSS) coordinates the University's waste ballasts recycling program and facilitates the collection and recycling of all waste ballasts generated by the University.

Waste lighting ballasts must be collected, identified, segregated for proper disposal through EHSS. Waste Ballasts must be segregated, separately stored into one of the following categories:

❖ Leaking PCBs Ballasts	❖ PCBs Ballast	❖ Non-PCBs and Electronic Ballasts

Identifying PCBs Containing Ballasts - In order to properly manage waste lighting ballasts, it must be known if they contain PCBs. The following criteria is provided to help identify ballasts that may contain PCBs:

A ballast does not contain PCBs if:

- Marked as an "Electronic Ballast"
- Marked with the words "No PCBs"
- Manufacture date is after 1979

A ballast does or should be assumed to contain PCBs if:

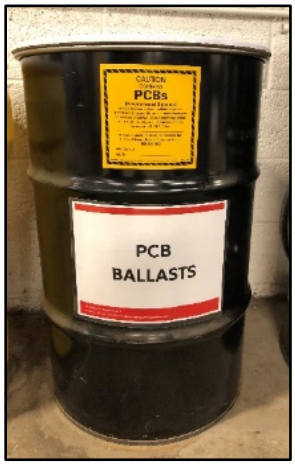
- Marked with the words "Contains PCBs"
- Manufacture date is unknown and there are no markings about PCBs content. In this case the manufacturer of the ballasts can be contacted to determine if they contain PCBs.

Leaking PCBs Ballasts - If a ballast is leaking, it should be managed as PCBs containing until proven otherwise by the manufacture date, marking on the ballast or manufacturer's confirmation. Intact PCB ballasts do not present an immediate risk of exposure to PCBs.

- If a PCBs ballast is found to be leaking when removed from service, special precautions must be taken. Nitrile gloves must be worn prior to handling and the leaking ballast must be placed in a secure leak proof container, labelled "caution contains PCBs" and "hazardous waste" and stored at a satellite accumulation area. Additionally, the Campus Facilities Environmental Shop must be contacted to evaluate whether leaking material has impacted any other surfaces, which would require PCBs clean-up.
- Following ballast removal, always thoroughly wash your hands and any areas of exposed skin with large amounts of soap and water. If you have been exposed to PCBs, immediately contact your supervisor, EHSS and/or Facilities Services Safety Manager.

PCBs Ballasts - Properly identified PCBs ballasts must be collected and placed in a labeled (PCBs) drum supplied by EHSS. Additionally, PCBs ballast drums must be labeled with a "caution contains PCBs" label. The PCBs ballasts must be placed in the drum and not on top of the drums.

Typical PCBs Waste Ballast Drum



30 gal. black steel drum

Suspected PCBs Ballasts

Non-PCBs/Electronic Ballasts - Properly identified non-PCBs and Electronic ballasts must be collected and placed in a labeled (Non-PCBs) drum supplied by EHSS. Ballasts must be placed in the drum and not on top of the drum.

Typical Non-PCBs /Electronic Waste Ballast Drum

55 gal. black steel drum

Typical Non-PCBs/Electronic

Waste Ballast Drum Locations on Campus - PCBs and Non-PCBs/Electronic waste ballast drums for use by Facilities Services staff are typically located together in the following Facilities Services waste storage areas around the University.

- Facilities Services Building (285 Ainsley Drive) - Room 127 & Outside of the Woodshop
- Haven Hall - Room 008B
- Newhouse 3 - Room 136
- CST - Room 0-005A

Campus Planning, Design & Construction (CPDC) Projects - Waste lighting ballasts generated by CPDC projects from University owned property must be disposed of through EHSS.

- EHSS must be notified as much advance notice as possible, of a CPDC project that will involve re-lamping and the generation of waste lighting ballasts.
- To properly manage the waste lighting ballasts the CPDC Project Manager must inform EHSS if the waste ballasts will be suspected of containing PCBs using the criteria in the "**Identifying PCBs Containing Ballasts"** section of this document. In addition, the CPDC Project Manager must inform the lighting contractor how to manage a leaking or overheated suspected PCBs containing ballast per the "**Leaking PCBs Ballasts"** section of this document.
- EHSS will provide labeled drums to the project site for the waste ballasts.
- EHSS must be notified immediately upon the completion of the ballast generation portion of the project to pick up the waste ballast drum(s) or if more labeled waste ballast drum(s) are required to complete the project.

To request a waste lighting ballast pickup or assistance with managing waste lighting ballasts, please contact EHSS at 315-443-4132 or submit an EHSS Request for Service at:
http://ehss.syr.edu/about/request-for-service