



Adoption of Ohio-Specific Universal Waste Rules

On December 8, 2017, Ohio EPA [adopted Ohio-specific universal waste rules](#) allowing hazardous non-empty aerosol containers, hazardous antifreeze, hazardous paint and hazardous paint-related wastes to be classified and managed as a universal waste in Ohio. The rules will be effective on December 21, 2017 and will eventually be moved to their appropriate Ohio Administrative Code chapter.

The purpose of designating a hazardous waste as a universal waste is to promote the proper handling, recycling or disposal of the hazardous waste by streamlining the regulations that apply to the waste. The new Ohio-specific universal wastes will be subject to provisions that are tailored to address the risks the wastes may pose. The requirements include: labeling, tank and container standards, limited treatment provisions, accumulation time limits, employee training requirements, emergency response requirements and transportation according to U.S. Department of Transportation rules.

Universal wastes do not count towards a generator's monthly hazardous waste accumulation rate and are not required to be manifested as a hazardous waste in Ohio or reported on the generator's hazardous waste biennial report.

Generators should note that if the hazardous waste stream is not managed as a universal waste, then the waste must be managed as a hazardous waste under the applicable hazardous waste regulations.

The definitions of the hazardous waste adopted into the universal waste rules by Ohio EPA are as follows:

- **“Aerosol container”** means a non-opening, non-refillable container that holds a substance under pressure and that can release the substance as a spray, gel, or foam by means of a propellant gas, for example nitrogen, carbon dioxide, propane, or butane.
- **“Antifreeze”** means propylene glycol or ethylene glycol, including aggregated batches of propylene glycol or ethylene glycol, used as a heat transfer medium in an internal combustion engine; heating, ventilating, and air condition.
- **“Paint”** means a mixture of pigment, binder, and suitable liquid or powder coating resulting from commercial, industrial, mining, agricultural, and post-consumer activities that upon drying or fusing forms an adhering coating on the surface to which the paint is applied.
- **“Paint-related waste”** means any material contaminated with paint that results from paint packaging, wholesale and retail operations, paint manufacturing, and paint application or removal activities, or a material derived from the reclamation of paint related wastes that is recycled in a manner other than burning for energy recovery or used in a manner constituting disposal according to rules 3745-51-02 and 3745-266-20 of the Administrative Code.

If you have any related questions regarding universal or hazardous waste management, please contact Tim Schwendeman at 330-854-9066 x12.