



*Pathway to the Future*

## **BERRYESSA UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT HAZARDOUS AND UNIVERSAL WASTE DISPOSAL PLAN**

The Department of Toxic Substances Control, or DTSC, protects California from exposures to hazardous wastes. The DTSC and California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), both members of the California Environmental Protection Agency, have devised a new approach for managing hazardous cathode ray tubes (CRT), commonly found in computer monitors, televisions, some camcorders and other electronic devices. Under emergency regulations adopted by the DTSC, CRTs are classified as Universal Wastes, opening the door to improved collection and recycling activities.

Universal wastes are commonly used items such as batteries, mercury thermometers and fluorescent tubes that are generated in homes and business and contain hazardous materials. A 17-inch computer monitor can contain approximately 2.2 pounds of lead and a 27-inch television can contain up to 8 pounds of lead. Lead is a toxic substance which may cause lead poisoning and can be especially harmful to young children. If products containing lead are disposed of to the trash, the lead can potentially contaminate the soil and our water supplies. Waste CRTs are subject to hazardous waste regulations which went into effect August 3, 2001. The regulations protect the environment by promoting the safe collection and recycling of waste CRT's. Disposing of CRTs to the trash or to a municipal landfill is prohibited.

Hazardous and universal wastes can be potentially harmful to both the health of humans and animals as well as to the environment. They can be found in the form of solids, liquids, gases or sludge, and they come from items such as cleaning fluids, manufacturing by-products, fertilizer, light bulbs, pool chemicals, paint and thinners, batteries, aerosol cans, TV and computer parts, insecticides and other technological items.

Berryessa Union School District disposes of their waste CRT's in a collection facility for recycling. All hazardous and universal waste material must be collected independent of the normal waste collection. Hazardous and universal waste will be collected and stored in a waste bin at the district office where it can be logged and correctly disposed of through the collection facility. All sites should contact the custodian to dispose of the hazardous items. The custodian will contact the Maintenance Department for a collection of the items.

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**For a large amount of disposal please contact Dan Norris, Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation (MOT), for collection and disposal of your computers, televisions, aerosol cans, fluorescent lights and batteries.**

All hazardous and universal material collected by MOT will be disposed of correctly as outline by the Environmental Protection Agency.

### **Department of Transportation (DOT) Labels**

DOT labels are found on the outside of hazardous materials containers shipped to the schools. This label is not needed for storage of the hazardous material containers, but will be needed for all hazardous and universal waste containers shipped off site for waste disposal. Before transporting or offering for transport hazardous materials, the Berryessa Union School District's staff or contractor must label each package in accordance with the applicable DOT regulation on hazardous materials under Title 49 CFR, or if transporting by air craft, under applicable International Air Transportation (IATA) rules, before moving off site. Note that more than one DOT label may be required for certain hazardous materials.

These are examples of DOT labels:



DTSCs and Berryessa Union School District's mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by regulating the management of hazardous waste and promoting its reduction.

**Keep up to date with your permits.** According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) hazardous waste permitting program is in place to help make sure that specific requirements are followed in regards to the safe treatment, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste. Permits are issued by authorized states or by EPA regional offices. Electronic permitting is available, and owners of Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) facilities must keep records and submit regular reports to the EPA.

### **WARNING**

Never mix potentially hazardous or other wastes. So, don't, for example, pour multiple chemicals into one container. Instead, leave them in their original container. The chemical reaction may be **toxic**. It could lead to an explosion, or it could release a poisonous gas.

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