









Swansea University

Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN34 Laboratory Plastic Recycling; EPS Polystyrene Boxes and Polypropylene boxes

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| Author: | Fiona Wheatley |
| Approved by: | Heidi smith |
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| Waste Management Guidance Note WMGN34 Laboratory Plastic Recycling EPS Polystyrene Boxes and Polypropylene boxes | | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Location Generated | Varied | | | | |
| EWC | 15 01 02 Plastic packaging | | | | |
| Type | Mirror Non-Hazardous | | | | |
| Disposal Method | Segregated for recycling | | | | |
| Bin/ Bag Type | Baled for compaction and recycling | | | | |
| <p>Duty of Care Requirements</p> <p>Any business or public body that generates waste materials should apply the waste hierarchy to all streams in order to minimise the amount of waste sent for disposal. In practice, this means ensuring all wastes are segregated at source and disposed of via the correct stream. General municipal waste should be the last option.</p> <p>The University has committed to segregating its waste at source, focusing on separating key recycling streams; cans, paper, plastics, food and glass. Segregation at source improves recycle quality and also adheres to the Waste Regulations (England and Wales) 2011. The Regulations stipulate that materials such as paper, metal, plastic and glass must be collected separately to encourage high quality of recycling material.</p> <p>Though classified as non-hazardous it is a legal requirement under the Hazardous Waste Regulations to segregate hazardous wastes from non-hazardous wastes and to ensure that all wastes are correctly classified. Incorrectly disposing of hazardous waste via the general municipal waste stream can lead to legal and financial penalties dependent upon the severity of the noncompliance.</p> <p>The University is now able to bale (pre-treat) some types of plastic for recycling, meaning a reduction in the volume of bulky waste placed into non-recycling bins, whilst complying with the waste hierarchy.</p> <p>The following EPS Polystyrene (expanded polystyrene) and plastic tip boxes generated in laboratories must now be segregated for recycling;</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center; width: 15%;">  </td> <td>EPS Polystyrene (expanded polystyrene) white packaging boxes</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">  </td> <td>Polypropylene empty tip boxes</td> </tr> </table> | |  | EPS Polystyrene (expanded polystyrene) white packaging boxes |  | Polypropylene empty tip boxes |
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|  | Polypropylene empty tip boxes | | | | |
| <p>We are constantly searching for new recycling avenues for laboratory single use plastics.</p> | | | | | |

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| <p>Items</p> <p>Many laboratory supply orders arrive safely packaged in white polystyrene boxes, these must now be separated for recycling.</p>  <p>Box Must display 06 PS triangle symbol</p> <p>Please remove all packaging and tape from the boxes for recycling. Spray/wipe clean with Virkon/ ethanol/isopropanol</p> | <p>Items</p> <p>Vast amounts of empty tip boxes are generated by laboratories, these must now be separated for recycling (all colours).</p>  <p>Box Must display 05 PP triangle symbol</p> <p>Please remove all packaging and tape from the boxes for recycling. Spray/wipe clean with Virkon/ ethanol/isopropanol</p> |
| <p>Disposal Instructions</p> <p>Singleton Campus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When 5-10 boxes have been stored - Spray/wipe clean with Virkon/ ethanol/isopropanol - Place works order via the helpdesk for collection <p>Bay Campus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When 5-10 boxes have been stored - Spray/wipe clean with Virkon/ ethanol/isopropanol - Take to Engineering service yard office for internal storage - Service yard office to place works order for collection | <p>Disposal Instructions</p> <p>Singleton Campus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spray/wipe clean tip box with Virkon/ ethanol/isopropanol - Collect in clear bag (e.g 60l sack if space allows) - When bag is full place works order via the helpdesk for collection <p>Bay Campus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spray/wipe clean tip box with Virkon/ ethanol/isopropanol - Collect in clear bag (e.g. 60l sack if space allows) - When bag is full take to service yard office for internal storage - Service yard office to place works order for collection |

Disposal Cost

The disposal cost is factored into the University's waste management service provision; therefore there is no direct cost to individuals/Colleges/PSUs. However individuals can minimise cost and contribute to the University's target to achieve 63% diversion rate away from EFW or landfill by ensuring all recyclable plastic are disposed of via the dedicated bins.

For further guidance please contact estates-waste@swansea.ac.uk
Or click [here](#) for the University's Minimal Waste page

Laboratory Plastic Recycling

Polypropylene Tip boxes and EPS Polystyrene Boxes

