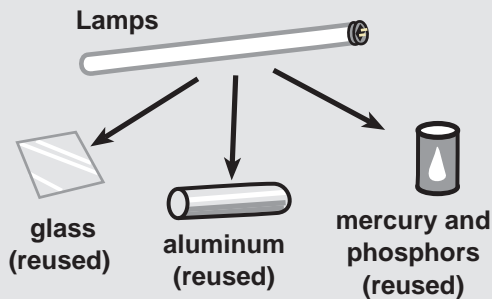




Disposal of Lamps and Ballasts

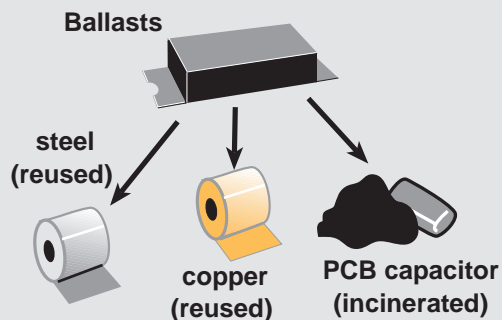
Recycling Lamps

Lamp recyclers crush lamps and separate the reusable glass, aluminum, mercury and phosphors.



Recycling Ballasts

Ballast recyclers separate ballasts into steel and copper. PCB-containing capacitors and asphalt potting materials are incinerated.



Waste Handling

Upgrading lighting systems with new lamps and ballasts will generate wastes that may require special handling, record-keeping and disposal:

- Fluorescent and HID lamps contain elemental mercury in an amount that may define them as a regulated hazardous waste.
- Most ballasts manufactured prior to 1980 contain pure PCB. If leaking, they must be handled as a PCB waste with disposal by high-temperature incineration.
- Used lamps and ballasts could expose a building owner to clean-up costs if the land fill used becomes a Superfund site.

Recycling

EPA and the Division of Waste Management recommend recycling as good environmental practice and good risk management:

- Recovered glass and metals
- Reduced Superfund liability risks
- Eliminated toxic chemical releases
- Off-set costs from energy savings

Anticipated Savings

MSD has recycled 8000 lamps and 4000 ballasts from 7 facilities. The cost of recycling lamps and ballasts from a four-tube fluorescent fixture is less than \$6.

The Lighting Waste Disposal Task Force, convened by MSD and local government in 1994, developed comprehensive information on regulations, disposal options and recycling vendors, plus wrote model procurement contracts.

