

**REDUCE LIGHT BULB WASTE
WHAT YOU CAN DO**



Why Use CFLs?

- ★ They can save you money. Lighting accounts for about 20 percent of the average home's electric bill.

ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs use up to 75 percent less energy than incandescent light bulbs.

- ★ They can save you more money and help reduce waste.

ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs last up to 10 times longer than incandescent bulbs.

- ★ They can help reduce energy use, preventing greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change.

If every home in the United States replaced just one incandescent light bulb with an ENERGY STAR qualified CFL, in one year it would save enough energy to light more than 3 million homes and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those of more than 800,000 cars.

- ★ This energy efficiency is also important because coal-fired power plants produce over 83% of Missouri's electricity. Coal-fired power plants cause as much as 40% of mercury emissions in the United States.

A coal-fired power plant will emit only 3.3 milligrams of mercury to produce the electricity required to use one CFL, compared with 13.6 milligrams for one incandescent light bulb.



Why Recycle CFLs?

- ★ CFLs contain a very small amount of mercury, an element noted as Hg on the periodic table, sealed within the glass tubing - an average of 5 milligrams. No mercury is released when the bulbs are intact or in use. However, during disposal, the estimated 3,000 tons of fluorescent bulbs trashed by Missouri annually could release up to 500 pounds of mercury into our environment. Note that coal-fired power plants are still the largest man-made source of mercury pollution.
- ★ CFLs may contain other heavy metals, such as cadmium and lead.
- ★ While recovering the mercury vapor, CFL processors also recycle the phosphors and glass.

*In Missouri, less than 20% of fluorescent lamps sold are recovered. [MDNR]
Across the United States, only about 24%
of spent mercury-containing lamps are recycled. [USEPA]*

Where Can You Recycle CFLs?

Home Depot

Web http://www6.homedepot.com/ecoptions/stage/pdf/cfl_recycle.pdf

Phone 314.865.0700

3202 South Kingshighway Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63139

- ★ Individuals can bring in any expired, unbroken CFLs, and give them to a store associate behind the returns desk free-of-charge. This is a national program.

Lens Masters

Fax 314.427.2226

Phone 314.427.1660

11309 Midland Boulevard, St. Louis, Missouri 63114

Hours Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

- ★ Residents can drop off various shapes and sizes of fluorescent and incandescent bulbs (they charge \$0.50 per compact fluorescent bulb, prices vary on other items). They accept fluorescent lamps, ballasts, U-tubes and compacts, incandescents, and signage lamps.



RecyclePak (a service of Sylvania and Veolia)

Web <https://recyclepak.sylvania.com/RecyclepakOrder>

- ★ They offer kits for \$15.00 that could hold up to 12 small compact fluorescent lamps or 6 to 8 medium to large compact fluorescent lamps. The kit can be conveniently mailed through any United States Postal Office.

Think Green From Home (a service of Waste Management, Inc.)

Web <https://www.thinkgreenfromhome.com/SafeConvenient.cfm>

- ★ Their \$14.95 kit holds up to fifteen 10-watt bulbs (they also offer a kit for tubes). They deliver the kit to you. You line the box with their Mercury VaporLok bag, fill the box with your used bulbs, and then ship the full box to them using their prepaid shipping label.

City of St. Louis - Refuse Division - Recycling Program, 4100 South First Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63118

Website <http://stlouis.missouri.org/citygov/recycle>, Email recycle@stlouis.missouri.org Fax 314.352.5627, Phone 314.353.7176,

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