

how to PROPERLY **Recycle** LIGHT BULBS

A simple household light bulb can be deceptively difficult to recycle. Some bulbs have filaments and other parts made of mercury, which is toxic to our environment. All spent bulbs should be collected and recycled.



FACT:

Incandescent bulbs will be phased out by 2014 in the U.S. under the CLEAN Energy Act of 2007. Although nothing will be mandated until 2012, in many areas energy companies are offering incentives such as mail-in rebates to switch to CFLs.

Here's How...

- 1 Collect spent light bulbs around your home**—incandescent, fluorescent, halogen—and store them to cut down time spent on recycling. Create a safe storage bin for them.
- 2 Work with your neighbors** to develop a light-bulb recycling program. Distribute notices throughout your neighborhood listing drop-off times at your home.
- 3 Investigate your employer's approach to recycling light bulbs** as a possible means of disposal. They may have partnerships with big-box retailers and/or state recycling agencies that will accept residential eWaste.
- 4 Use online recycling programs** to deal with the growing number of dead light bulbs in your home.
- 5 Research your state recycling programs for collection sites** accepting light bulbs and office equipment. States concerned with the proper disposal of mercury are working to collect light bulbs through recycling sites.
- 6 Search the web for conservation groups** that hold recycling drives in your community. You can sign up for newsletters and reminders for specific collection periods.
- 7 Minimize recycling issues with energy-efficient lighting.** Investing in light bulbs that can last several years will greatly reduce your need to recycle. Lighting fixtures that are designed to shut off automatically can offer additional savings.



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