

# COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS IMPORTANT DISPOSAL INFORMATION

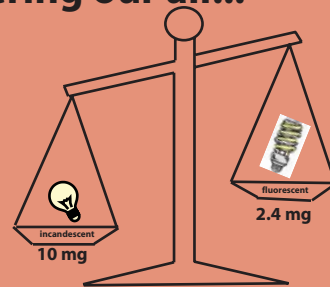


Compact fluorescent lamps (CFL) like the ones shown in the chart below are small fluorescent light bulbs that use up to 75 percent less energy than a traditional incandescent bulb, are relatively inexpensive, and can be screwed into a regular light socket. Switching from traditional light bulbs to CFL's is a cost effective way to reduce energy use at home and prevent greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global climate change. Because of these reasons we are beginning to see an increase in home use.

Unfortunately, the element that makes the CFL's energy efficient is mercury. And while the amount of mercury contained in a CFL is small (5 milligrams as compared to 500 milligrams in the older home thermometers) proper handling and disposal of both non-working, unbroken bulbs and bulbs that break are very important. Please see the reverse side of this flyer for disposal and handling information for compact fluorescent lamps (CFL's).

## CFL's actually prevent mercury from entering our air...

**A power plant will emit 10 mg of mercury into the air to produce the electricity needed to run an incandescent bulb compared to only 2.4 mg of mercury to run a CFL for the same amount of time!**



MILLIGRAMS OF MERCURY USED TO PRODUCE ENERGY TO RUN LAMP  
INFORMATION FROM OHIO EPA

## EXAMPLES OF COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS CURRENTLY ON THE MARKET (From EnergyStar)

BARE PRODUCTS		COVERED PRODUCTS			REFLECTOR PRODUCTS
Mini-Spiral or Twist	Tube or Universal	Incandescent/A-line	Globe G25, G30, G40	Candelabra, Post or Bullet Shape	Indoor and Outdoor R20, R30, R40, PAR38

## US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY GUIDELINES FOR HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF BROKEN COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS

1. Open a window and leave the room (restrict access) for at least 15 minutes. If you have fans, place the fans in the windows and blow the air out of the room. Note: If the room has no windows, open all doors to the room and windows outside the room and use fans to move the air out of the room and to the open windows.
2. Remove all materials you can without using a vacuum cleaner.
  - Wear disposable rubber gloves, if available (do not use your bare hands)
  - Carefully scoop up the fragments and powder with stiff paper cardboard
  - Wipe the area clean with a damp paper towel or disposable wet wipe
  - Sticky tape (such as duct tape) can be used to pick up small pieces and powder
3. Place all cleanup materials in a plastic bag and seal it, and then place in a second sealed plastic bag. Contact the Solid Waste Department for disposal options.
4. If the bulb is broken on a rug or carpet...
  - First, remove all materials you can without using a vacuum cleaner, following the steps above. Sticky tape (such as duct tape) can be used to pick up small pieces and powder
  - If vacuuming is needed after all visible materials are removed, vacuum the area where the bulb was broken, remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister) and put the bag or vacuum debris in two sealed plastic bags in the outdoor trash or protected outdoor location for normal disposal.

## DISPOSAL OF NON-WORKING, UNBROKEN COMPACT FLUORESCENT LAMPS



CHECK FOR A WARRANTY. All ENERGY STAR qualified Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFL's) have a warranty. Check the product packaging for more information.



RECYCLE. Several companies offer recycle options for both Compact Fluorescent Lamps and fluorescent tubes including easy to use pre-paid kits. The Charter Township of Plymouth does not endorse any of the following companies and is only providing information for your use:

**Sylvania**  
1-800-LIGHTBULB  
<http://www.sylvania.com>

**LightBulbRecycling.com**  
A Division of Eco-Products, Inc.  
3640 Walnut St.  
Boulder, CO 80301  
303-449-1876  
[www.lightbulbrecycling.com](http://www.lightbulbrecycling.com)

**Cleanlights Recycling, Inc.**  
665 Hull Road  
PO Box 212  
Mason, MI 48854-0212  
517-676-0044

**LampRecycle.org**  
Maintains a list of companies who claim to recycle CFL's  
<http://www.lamprecycle.org>

**IMPORTANT: DO NOT PUT FLUORESCENT LAMPS  
IN THE ORANGE CURBSIDE RECYCLING CONTAINER**



BRING TO A HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION. The Charter Township of Plymouth and Wayne County host Household Hazardous Waste collections at no out-of-pocket cost to residents of Plymouth Township. Contact each office for dates and times of upcoming events:

**Charter Township of Plymouth**  
Solid Waste Department  
734-354-3270 ext. 4  
[svignoe@plymouthtp.org](mailto:svignoe@plymouthtp.org)  
<http://www.plymouthtp.org>

**Wayne County**  
Department of Environment  
734-326-3936