

Where Do I Recycle Old Fluorescent Bulbs?

For bulbs from your home, simply take them to any location listed below. Businesses with spent fluorescent bulbs can contact Lane County Waste Management at 541-682-4120 or their lighting supplier: *(changes to this list may occur), for current online list visit: www.lanecounty.org/lamps*

Eugene

Aqua Serene
2836 West 11th Ave, 541-302-9073

Brighter Homes Lighting
1968 W 6th Ave, 541-343-2556

Emerald People's Utility District (EPUD)
33733 Seavey Loop Rd, 541-746-1583

Emerald Valley Gardens
88680 McVay Hwy, 541-636-3763

Eugene True Value Hardware
2825 Willamette St., 541-342-5191

Greater Goods
515 High St, 541-485-4224

Heinke Electrical and Lighting
645 Adams St, 541-687-8129

Jerry's Home Improvement Center
2600 Hwy 99 North, 541-689-1911

Lane Electric Cooperative
787 Bailey Hill Rd, 541-484-1151

The Green Store
500 Olive St, 541-344-1530

Springfield

Greener Side of Life
623 W Centennial Blvd, 541-636-3552

Jerry's Home Improvement Center
2525 Olympic St, 541-736-7000

Oregon's Constant Gardener
2053 Laura St, 541-747-8170

Junction City

B & I True Value Hardware
120 W 6th Ave, 541-998-2355

Cottage Grove

Cascade Home Center
49 South 6th St, 541-942-1301

Creswell

Cascade Home Center
104 South Mill St, 541-895-4166

Florence

True Value Hardware
1750 Hwy 126, 541-997-8024

Recycler's Guide to Fluorescent Bulbs



Protecting
human health
and the environment



Lane County Public Works
Waste Management Division
3100 East 17th Avenue
Eugene, OR 97403



Lane County Public Works
Waste Management Division

Don't Trash That Fluorescent Lamp

Recycle Your Spent CFLs and Linear Tubes

You may already know that installing fluorescent lights (compact fluorescent lamps or linear tubes) in your home saves energy, which means you save money. Their efficiency and long life offers another way for you to help protect the environment by conserving precious resources and reducing landfill waste.

But did you know that fluorescent lamps also should be disposed of properly with other household hazardous waste products such as pesticides, paint, batteries, and thermostats? Lane County Waste Management, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and local electric utilities in the Eugene-Springfield community have teamed up to create a convenient residential recycling program for spent CFLs and linear fluorescent tubes (4-foot maximum on tubes).

Why is it Important to Recycle?

Fluorescent lamps contain an extremely small amount of mercury—it's what makes them so efficient. The amount of mercury is so small that it does not pose a health risk to you or your family. However, we are working to keep large accumulations of these lamps out of the landfills.

Since fluorescent lamps contain mercury is it better for the environment to use incandescent bulbs? No—you need to considerate broader perspective of the energy generation. Using energy-efficient products like fluorescent lamps is one way to

curb our region's growing energy demands. Experts agree that given a choice between fluorescent lighting and ordinary incandescent bulbs, fluorescents are better for you and the environment because they save money, conserve energy, and reduce landfill waste, and power plant emissions.

Other Helpful Tips:

- To reduce the risk of bulb breakage and contamination, wrap the bulb in a sealed plastic bag, do not tape.
- Never incinerate fluorescent lamps.
- If your ENERGY STAR® qualified bulb fails within its two-year warranty period return it to the place of purchase or contact the manufacturer with the original receipt for a refund or replacement.



Should I Be Concerned About Using Fluorescent Lamps in My Home?

Fluorescent lamps are safe to use in your home. No mercury is released when the bulbs are in use and they pose no danger to you or your family when handled properly. In CFLs, for example, an extremely small amount of mercury, an average of five milligrams, is sealed within the glass tubing. For a basis of comparison, there are about 500 milligrams to two grams of mercury in your average home thermometer. It would take between 100 to 400 CFLs to equal that same amount of mercury.

What Should I Do if a Fluorescent Lamp Breaks?

In the unlikely event your bulb breaks, be certain to sweep up—don't vacuum—all of the glass fragments and phosphor powder. Place the broken pieces in a plastic bag and wipe the area with a damp paper towel to pick up any stray shards of glass or fine particles. Put the used towel in the plastic bag as well. Take to the Lane County Glenwood Transfer Station for recycling.

It is a good practice to always clean up any products containing mercury with care and common sense.

Please note that products with liquid mercury (also called elemental mercury) require different clean up and disposal procedures. For more information, call Lane County Waste Management at 541-682-4120.

