

# Recycle Your CFL

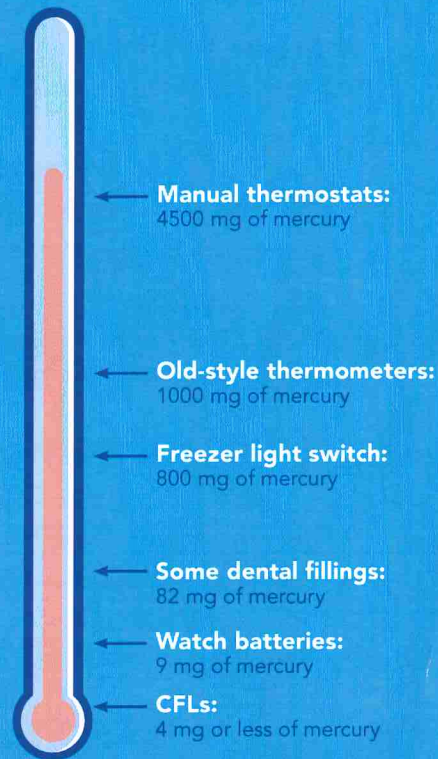
It's as easy as changing a light bulb.



CFLs contain a very small amount of mercury, which is what allows them to be an efficient lighting source. Mercury is found naturally in the air, soil and water. Of all household products that contain mercury, CFLs have the least amount – an average of 4mg or less, which is about the size of the period at the end of this sentence.

**However, it's important to protect our environment by recycling CFLs and keeping them out of landfills.**

## How Much Mercury is in a CFL?\*



\*According to US EPA



## Recycling Your CFL



## If Your CFL Breaks



**When your bulb burns out, follow these easy steps to help keep it out of local landfills.**

1. Check with your local retailer which may offer CFL recycling. Visit [www.pplelectric.com/e-power](http://www.pplelectric.com/e-power) to find a participating store near you.
2. Bring in your used compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL). Make sure it is still intact.
3. Give the CFL to a sales associate.
4. The CFL will be recycled in accordance with federal, state and local disposal regulations.

**The EPA recommends simple steps:**

1. Before clean-up, open a window for 15 minutes and turn off your heat or A/C.
2. Scoop up the glass fragments and powder using stiff paper or cardboard - do not sweep or vacuum. Sticky tape can help get glass or powder out of carpet. Wipe the area clean with a paper towel.
3. Place all materials outdoors in a trash container for the next normal trash pickup, or visit [www.earth911.org](http://www.earth911.org) for recycling options.
4. As an extra precaution, the next time the area is vacuumed, remove the bag after vacuuming and throw it in the trash.

## Bulb Types



### **GENERAL PURPOSE - LED omni-directional**

Use these bulbs to replace incandescent bulbs in most fixtures, such as table lamps, ceiling fixtures, floor torchieres, wall sconces and more.

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### **DECORATIVE - LED candelabra**

Use these bulbs to replace incandescent bulbs in decorative fixtures, such as ceiling fans, chandeliers and outdoor post lights.

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### **GLOBE - LED globe**

Use in fixtures where the bulb is visible, like a bath bar, pendant lamp or any other outward or downward facing socket.

## Bulb Types



### REFLECTORS

Use these bulbs to replace incandescent bulbs in most fixtures, such as table lamps, ceiling fixtures, floor torchieres, wall sconces and more.



#### R or BR Reflectors

Use to replace a reflector in recessed cans and other applications. Common sizes are R20, R or BR30 and R or BR40.



#### PAR Reflector

Use to replace a PAR lamp in recessed, track and spot or flood light applications. Common sizes are PAR30 and PAR38.

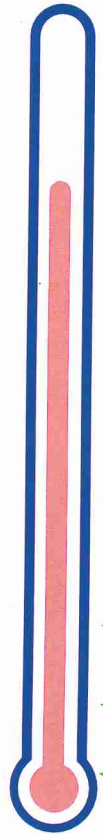


#### LED MR16

Use to replace halogen MR16s, commonly used in track, under cabinet and range hood ventilation lighting.



## How Much Mercury is in a CFL?\*



Manual thermostats:  
4500 mg of mercury

Old-style thermometers:  
1000 mg of mercury

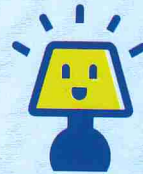
Freezer light switch:  
800 mg of mercury

Some dental fillings:  
82 mg of mercury

Watch batteries:  
9 mg of mercury

CFLs:  
4 mg of mercury

\*According to the U.S. EPA



## Light Smarter

Looking for an alternative to incandescent bulbs and CFLs? PPL Electric Utilities recommends taking a look at LEDs. These energy-saving bulbs:

- Use up to **75 percent less energy** than incandescent bulbs
- Last up to **10 times longer** than CFLs and up to **20 times longer** than incandescent bulbs
- **Save up to \$135** over the life of each bulb
- Waste less heat and stay cool to the touch

PPL Electric Utilities is helping you save on LEDs with E-power® instant discounts at participating retailers. To find a retailer, visit [ppllectric.com/retailers](http://ppllectric.com/retailers).



## Recycle your CFL



It's the **smarter** thing to do.



## The Facts about CFLs & Mercury

All fluorescent lights – including tubes in your kitchen or garage – contain a small amount of mercury, which is what makes them so efficient. No mercury is emitted when the bulb is in use.

Mercury is found naturally in the air, soil and water. Of all household products that contain mercury, CFLs have the least amount – an average of 4 mg or less, which is about the size of the period at the end of this sentence.

However, it's important to "close the loop" and protect the environment by recycling your used CFLs.



## Recycling Your CFL



Once a CFL bulb burns out, it's easy to recycle. Bulbs should remain intact and not be crushed or broken and then taken to a recycling location. Locations include **Lowe's** or **The Home Depot**, both of which have bins to deposit CFLs for free recycling.

PPL Electric Utilities also has joined with a number of independent retailers who accept bulbs for recycling. Find a location by visiting [ppllectric.com/retailers](http://ppllectric.com/retailers). You can also search for local municipalities that accept CFL bulbs at [earth911.org/recycle](http://earth911.org/recycle).



## If Your CFL Breaks

There's no need to be alarmed! The EPA offers basic guidelines for CFL cleanup.

1. First, turn off the furnace or AC and open windows or doors in the room.
2. Do not use a broom or vacuum. Instead, scoop up the bulb fragments with stiff paper or cardboard and place them in a sealable plastic bag. Sticky tape can be used to pick up small fragments and powder from carpet. Wipe the area clean with a damp paper towel.
3. Place all the clean up materials in the bag and seal. Then place the bag in the outdoor trash container.
4. If practical, continue to leave the forced air furnace or central AC off for a few hours.

The first time the area is vacuumed after all visible materials are removed, remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister) and place it in the outdoor trash for normal disposal.