

CFL Recycle/disposal information

Congratulations! If you are lighting your home with ENERGY STAR® qualified energy-efficient lighting – or even thinking about it – you are making a smart choice. Not only do you save money and energy, you contribute to a cleaner environment by reducing fossil fuel use.

When your CFL bulb does reach the end of its lifetime, it's important that you continue your commitment to help protect the environment by disposing of it safely and correctly.

Can't I just throw my CFL bulb in the trash?

CFL bulbs contain a trace amount of mercury – an essential element that allows them to be so efficient. This amount is extremely small – an average of five milligrams (that's about the size of the period at the end of this sentence). For comparison, it would take all the mercury in 100-400 CFL bulbs to equal the amount of mercury in just one home thermometer.

While the mercury in just one CFL bulb does not pose a hazard to you or the environment, there are millions of CFLs currently being used in households and businesses. It's important that we all make an effort to keep large concentrations of fluorescent lighting out of landfills by taking them to a local Household Hazardous Waste facility.

Should I still use CFL bulbs?

The answer is YES! CFL bulbs use up to 75% less energy than incandescent bulbs and last up to 10 times longer. CFL bulbs actually prevent more mercury from entering the environment by helping to reduce coal-fired power plant emissions. On average, a coal-fired power plant emits 10 milligrams of mercury to run an incandescent bulb, compared to only 2.4 milligrams to run a CFL (*source: U.S. EPA*). Experts agree that given a choice between CFL bulbs and incandescent bulbs, CFLs are better for your home and the environment. For more information on all sources of mercury, visit <http://www.epa.gov/mercury>

What should I do with my used CFL bulb?

Once a CFL bulb burns out, most of the mercury has been used up. However, it's still important that the bulb remain intact – you should not break or crush it. If possible, return the CFL bulb to its original packaging and take it to your local Household Hazardous Waste facility for proper disposal.

***TIP:** All CFL bulbs have at least a two-year warranty. If yours fails within this time, return it to the place of purchase for a replacement.*

What if my bulb breaks?

Open a window and leave the room for 15 minutes or more. If your CFL bulb breaks, your greatest risk is being cut by glass shards. On **hard surfaces**, scoop up the fragments and powder with stiff paper or cardboard and place them in a sealable plastic bag. Do not use a vacuum or broom to clean up the broken bulb on hard surfaces. Wipe the area with a damp paper towel to pick up any stray shards of glass or smaller particles. Put the used towel and any other clean-up materials in the plastic bag and seal it. On **soft surfaces like carpet**, follow the same steps: scoop up the materials with stiff paper or cardboard (do not vacuum). Sticky tape (such as duct tape) can be used to pick up small pieces and powder. Then place all the materials in a plastic bag and seal. Take all materials to your local Household Hazardous Waste facility for proper disposal.

The first time the area is vacuumed after all visible materials are removed, 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.

What happens to the CFL bulb once I take it for disposal?

Any mercury that is still contained in the bulb is recovered and prepared for use in commercial applications. The glass and ballasts are recycled or placed in a hazardous waste landfill.

CFL Recycling Options in Arizona

Currently there are many cities in Maricopa County that will accept CFL's as part of their household hazardous waste (HHW) collection. There is no cost for drop off as long as citizens show proof of residency in their city, typically with a water bill and picture ID. Currently, Yavapai and Pinal County have no services for household hazardous waste. Coconino County has a drop off facility in Flagstaff.

The following cities have HHW collections that accept CFL's:

City/County	Contact Number and Web Site	Frequency
Glendale	623-930-2660 http://www.glendaleaz.com/sanitation	Call for pick up
Goodyear	623-932-1637 http://az-goodyear.civicplus.com	2/year
Mesa	480-644-2222 http://www.cityofmesa.org/waste	3/year
Phoenix	602-262-7251 http://phoenix.gov/GARBAGE/bopa.html	Weekly at various locations
Queen Creek	602-739-9993 http://www.queencreek.org	1/year
Tempe	480-858-2223 http://www.tempe.gov/HHW	Drop Off facility (2 days/week)
Carefree	480-488-3565 http://www.carefree.org	Monthly
Flagstaff and Coconino County	928-527-9005 http://www.flagstaff.az.gov	Drop Off facility (3 days/week)
Chandler	480-782-3510 http://www.chandleraz.gov	Schedule a drop off time
Gilbert	480-503-640 http://www.ci.gilbert.az.us	Drop off facility (3 days/week)
Yuma	928-373-4500. http://www.ci.yuma.az.us	4/year
Litchfield Park	623-935-5033 http://www.litchfield-park.org	2/year
Peoria	623-773-7431 http://www.peoriaaz.com	3/year
Scottsdale	480-312-5600 http://www.scottsdaleaz.gov/recycle/	3/year
Surprise	623-222-6000 http://www.surpriseaz.com/	1/year



THE POWER TO MAKE IT HAPPEN®



APS and ENERGY STAR® Residential Lighting Program

Retail Locations: IKEA
2110 W. IKEA Way
Tempe, AZ 85284
(480) 496-5658

The following Ace store locations are APS sponsored CFL recycling drop-off locations:

Store Name	Street Address	City	State	Zip
PARADISE VALLEY ACE HDWE	13811 N TATUM BLVD	PHOENIX	AZ	85032
ACE HARDWARE	11323 N VIA LINDA	SCOTTSDALE	AZ	85259
HOMCO ACE HOME CENTER	1763 E BUTLER AVE	FLAGSTAFF	AZ	86001
ACE VALLEY HOME CENTER	7211 E 1ST ST	PRESCOTT VALLEY	AZ	86314
KARSTEN'S ACE HARDWARE	28220 N TATUM BLVD	CAVE CREEK	AZ	85331
ACE HARDWARE	3440 W ANTHEM WAY	ANTHEM	AZ	85086
KARSTEN'S ACE HARDWARE	36889 N TOM DARLINTON DR	CAREFREE	AZ	85377
JOHNNY'S ACE HARDWARE	8285 W LAKE PLEASANT PKWY	PEORIA	AZ	85382
ACE HARDWARE	20165 N 67TH AVE	GLENDALE	AZ	85308
ACE HARDWARE	750 S. COOPER ROAD	GILBERT	AZ	85223

By web or phone: www.earth911.org **1-877-EARTH911**

This web site gives comprehensive information on recycling and waste disposal for every state. First enter your zip code in the box in the upper-left corner. Click "Household Hazardous Waste" in the left-hand menu, and then click "fluorescent bulbs."