



Do it right! Drop off your used fluorescent lights & tubes for safe recycling

The following FAQ is intended to provide general information to retailers and others, to help answer questions frequently asked by consumers. For more detailed information please visit www.lightrecycle.ca or call 1-800-667-4321.

LightRecycle: Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is LightRecycle?

LightRecycle is the new BC Fluorescent Lights Recycling program, brought to you by Product Care. Starting July 1, 2010, BC residents will be able to drop off their burnt-out household fluorescent lights and tubes at LightRecycle drop-off locations across BC.

Where do I take my burnt out fluorescents?

Recycling your used fluorescents is easy. Simply visit www.lightrecycle.ca or call 1-800-667-4321 to find the LightRecycle drop-off location nearest you. Each LightRecycle location will have a box where you can drop off your burnt-out fluorescent lights and tubes, free of charge.

Remember to handle fluorescent lights carefully. Do not break or puncture them.

Why can't I just put them in the garbage or the blue box/bag?

It is important to keep fluorescent lights out of our landfills. Fluorescent lights contain a small amount of mercury that makes them energy-efficient. Returning them to a LightRecycle drop-off keeps them out of the landfill, ensures the mercury is safely managed and as many materials as possible are recycled.

What products are accepted by the LightRecycle program?

Residential use fluorescent tube lights and compact fluorescents ("CFLs") are accepted by the program. Fluorescent lights and tubes can be identified by the marking for mercury (Hg) on the base of the bulb.

- Compact fluorescents (or "CFLs") are energy-efficient lights commonly recognized by their spiral or twist shape; however, but they can also be shaped as loops, or covered by a bulb-shaped glass cover.
- Fluorescent tubes come in various lengths (4 foot is the most common) and are also identified by their diameter, known as T12s, T8s and T5s. Most are straight but they can be curved or shaped.



What products are not accepted?

LightRecycle is for residential-use compact fluorescent lights and fluorescent tubes only (see above). LightRecycle does not accept commercial or industrial use fluorescent lights and tubes – a program for those products starts in 2012. LightRecycle does not accept incandescent or halogen lights or LEDs (e.g. Christmas tree lights).



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What do I do with lights that are not accepted by the program?

For disposal options for lights that are not accepted in the program, call the Recycling Hotline at 604.732.9253 in the Lower Mainland and 1.800.667.4321 in the rest of BC.

How is the program funded?

LightRecycle is an “industry product stewardship” program required by BC’s Recycling Regulation. BC now has product stewardship programs for paint, tires and electronics and many other products. Manufacturers and distributors of fluorescent lights sold in BC pay an “eco fee” to fund the program for every light sold. The eco-fee may or may not appear on the retail receipt when you buy CFLs or fluorescent tubes.

Lamp type (sales for residential use)	Common size	Eco-fee per unit
Compact Fluorescent Lamps	CFL	\$0.25
Tubes less than or equal to 2 feet	2 feet	\$0.20
Tubes greater than 2 feet and up to or equal to 4 feet	4 feet	\$0.25
Tubes greater than 4 feet	8 feet	\$0.40

How do I get more information?

LightRecycle is managed by the Product Care Association, the industry-sponsored non-profit agency that manages product stewardship programs in BC for paint, flammable liquids, pesticides and gasoline, as well as programs in other provinces. For more information on the LightRecycle program:

www.lightrecycle.ca

1-800-667-4321

lights@productcare.org