

# Compact Fluorescent Lights Disposal Information

*It's unlawful to dispose of any lamps containing mercury in regular solid waste trash. The lamps affected by this law include fluorescent (full size and compact), metal halide, sodium lamps, and mercury vapor lamps.*

To help you adhere to the law, SDG&E® is providing the following recommended guidelines, as well as a list of resources for disposal when the time comes to replace your Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) bulbs.

- ▶ Don't place lamps containing mercury into your blue solid waste recycling bin. Check with your local waste management agency or municipal government entity to find out where to take these items in your area.
- ▶ Prior to drop-off at city recycling centers, place the bulb in a sealed plastic bag to reduce the risk of bulb breakage or contamination and to protect yourself from potential cuts.
- ▶ If your bulb breaks, your greatest risk is of being cut by broken glass. Handle it sensibly and sweep up all of the glass fragments. Don't vacuum, because that can disperse particles. Sweep the broken pieces into a plastic bag and wipe the area with a damp paper towel to pick up any stray shards of glass or powder. Continue to properly recycle broken lamps just as you would unbroken ones.



Compact fluorescent lights come in many shapes and sizes.

## Recycling Resources

CFL Recycling Locations:

**Lowe's**  
lowes.com

**Home Depot**  
[www.homedepot.com/ecoptions](http://www.homedepot.com/ecoptions)

**Did you know?** There is a CFL equivalent for every incandescent light bulb on the market, including dimmable and three-way options. Look for discounted ENERGY STAR® products with the SDG&E sticker. Visit [sdge.com/saveenergy](http://sdge.com/saveenergy) to learn more about energy-efficient lighting.

## Additional Resources and Information

For additional information on facilities or collection events that accept CFLs for recycling, contact your local municipal government entity responsible for solid waste or household hazardous waste.

### County of San Diego

#### Household Hazardous Waste

(877) 713-2784

[sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/hazmat/uwaste.html](http://sdcounty.ca.gov/deh/hazmat/uwaste.html)

### City of Chula Vista

#### Environmental Services

(619) 691-5122

[chulavistaca.gov/clean/EnvironmentalServices/](http://chulavistaca.gov/clean/EnvironmentalServices/UniversalWaste.asp)

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### City of San Diego Environmental Services

(858) 694-7000

[sandiego.gov/environmental-services/ep/disposal.shtml](http://sandiego.gov/environmental-services/ep/disposal.shtml)

### I Love a Clean San Diego

[ilacsd.org](http://ilacsd.org)

### CalRecycle

[calrecycle.ca.gov/ReduceWaste/FluoresLamps/](http://calrecycle.ca.gov/ReduceWaste/FluoresLamps/)

### Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers

[almr.org](http://almr.org)

### Lamp Recycle

[lamprecycle.org](http://lamprecycle.org)

### Earth 911

[Earth911.org](http://Earth911.org)

### ENERGY STAR Recycle

[energystar.gov/recycle](http://energystar.gov/recycle)



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1-800-336-7343

[sdge.com](http://sdge.com)