

Fluorescent Light Bulb & Mercury Disposal

FYI: Install the new energy saving light bulbs in an upright position. Do not install in any type of overhead fixture such as ceiling fans.

Compact fluorescent bulbs still contain mercury (not as much as the fluorescent tubes) enough to harm the environment and people. To properly dispose of anything containing mercury, please read and follow the disposal guidelines:

EPA recommends the following clean-up and disposal guidelines:

- Try to wear disposable gloves.
- Before Clean-up: Vent the Room
- Open a window and leave the room for 15 minutes or more.
- Shut off the central forced air heating/air conditioning system, if you have one.

- **Clean-up Steps for Hard Surfaces**
- Carefully scoop up glass fragments and powder using stiff paper or cardboard and place them in a glass jar with a metal lid (such as a canning jar) or in a sealed plastic bag
- Use sticky tape, such as duct tape, to pick up any remaining small glass fragments and powder.
- Wipe the area clean with damp paper towels or disposable wet wipes and place them in the glass jar or plastic bag.
- Do not use a vacuum or broom to clean up the broken bulb on the hard surfaces.

- **Clean-up Steps for Carpeting or Rug:**
- Carefully pick up glass fragments and place them in a glass jar with metal lid (such as a canning jar) or in a sealed plastic bag.
- Use sticky tape such as duct tape, to pick up any remaining small glass fragments and powder.
- If vacuuming is needed after all visible materials are removed, vacuum the area where the bulb was broken.
- Remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister), and put the bag or vacuum debris in a sealed plastic bag.

- **Disposal of Clean-up Materials:**
- Immediately place all cleanup materials in a sealed plastic bag and place outside the building.
- Wash your hands after disposing of the jars or plastic bags containing clean-up materials.
- Bring materials to Transfer Station and notify attendant.
- Future Cleaning of Carpeting or Rug: Vent the Room During and After Vacuuming:
- For at least the next few times you vacuum, shut off the central forced-air heating/air conditioning system and open a window prior to vacuuming.
- Keep the central heating/air conditioning system shut off and the window open for at least 15 minutes after vacuuming is completed.