

How and Where Can I Recycle CFLs?

You can always look for options by visiting: search.Earth911.com. As of 2014, here are the locations the City is aware of:

- 1) Recycling Collection Sites:
 - Environmental Recycling Group
527 East Woodlawn Circle, PO Box 167
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
(800) 284-9107
- 2) Local retailer:
 - Lowe's (13.2 miles)
1831 N Clinton Street
Defiance, Ohio 43512
(419) 782-9000
 - Home Depot (24.9 miles)
1169 S Main Street
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
(419) 353-3731
- 3) Mail-in services
 - Chemwise, Inc.
316 E Sandusky St
Findlay, Ohio 45840

Source: <http://www2.epa.gov/cfl/recycling-and-disposal-after-cfl-burns-out#whererecycle>

Should I dispose of CFLs in my garbage?

Residential consumers are not forced by the Ohio EPA to recycle bulbs. If you chose to dispose of bulbs, the EPA recommends you place the bulb in two (2) sealed plastic bags and put it into your outside trash. Do not dispose of in an incinerator.

My CFL burned out before the packaging stated it should. How do I get a refund or replacement? I don't have the original packaging or receipt.

If your ENERGY STAR qualified CFL product burns out before it should, look at the CFL base to find the manufacturer's name. Visit the manufacturer's web site to find the customer service contact information to inquire about a refund or replacement. We can also help you track down the manufacturer's contact information. Manufacturers producing ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs are required to offer at least a 2-year limited warranty (covering manufacturer defects) for residential applications. In the future, save your receipts to document the date of purchase.

In addition, the ENERGY STAR program monitors all CFL early failures. Please bring product failures to our attention by e-mailing us at: cfl@energystar.gov, be sure to include the manufacturer's name and product model number

Source: <http://energystar.supportportal.com/ics/support/KBAnswer.asp?questionID=19712>

Businesses:

The EPA regulates how a business must handle fluorescent bulbs. If you are business I would recommend you read:

<http://www.epa.gov/wastes/hazard/wastetypes/universal/lamps/lamp-recycling2-09.pdf>

The closest waste collection site that takes fluorescent bulbs is:

- Environmental Recycling Group
527 East Woodlawn Circle, PO Box 167
Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
(800) 284-9107

How do I handle clean up for a broken florescent bulb?**Before Cleanup**

Have people and pets leave the room.

Air out the room for 5-10 minutes by opening a window or door to the outdoor environment.

Shut off the central forced air heating/air-conditioning system, if you have one.

Collect materials needed to clean up broken bulb:

- 1) stiff paper or cardboard
- 2) sticky tape
- 3) damp paper towels or disposable wet wipes (for hard surfaces)
- 4) a glass jar with a metal lid or a sealable plastic bag

During Cleanup

DO NOT VACUUM. Vacuuming is not recommended unless broken glass remains after all other cleanup steps have been taken. Vacuuming could spread mercury-containing powder or mercury vapor.

Be thorough in collecting broken glass and visible powder. Scoop up glass fragments and powder using stiff paper or cardboard. Use sticky tape, such as duct tape, to pick up any remaining small glass fragments and powder. Place the used tape in the glass jar or plastic bag. See the detailed cleanup instructions for more information, and for differences in cleaning up hard surfaces versus carpeting or rugs.

Place cleanup materials in a sealable container.

After Cleanup

Promptly place all bulb debris and cleanup materials, including vacuum cleaner bags, outdoors in a trash container or protected area until materials can be disposed of. Avoid leaving any bulb fragments or cleanup materials indoors.

Next, check with your local government about disposal requirements in your area, because some localities require fluorescent bulbs (broken or unbroken) be taken to a local recycling center. If there is no such requirement in your area, you can dispose of the materials with your household trash.

If practical, continue to air out the room where the bulb was broken and leave the heating/air conditioning system shut off for several hours.

If you have further questions, please call your local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222.

Why is it important to clean up a broken CFL properly?

CFLs and other fluorescent light bulbs contain a small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing. When a fluorescent bulb breaks in your home, some of this mercury is released as mercury vapor. To minimize exposure to mercury vapor, EPA recommends that residents follow the cleanup and disposal steps described on this page.

Source: <http://www2.epa.gov/cfl/cleaning-broken-cfl>

