



Coming Soon!

BC's Newest Product Stewardship Program: Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) and Fluorescent Tubes

A Bright Idea Just Got Greener!

Similar to other programs for paints and pesticides, Product Care Association is launching a new stewardship program to collect and recycle residential, energy-efficient Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFLs) and fluorescent tubes. Starting July 1st, residents will be able to return CFLs and fluorescent tubes for safe recycling at sites across BC. While these bulbs and tubes are more energy efficient, they do contain a small amount of mercury – five times less than in a watch battery – which is why it's important that they be safely recycled.

Informing You First

Prior to a large-scale public announcement of the program, we are providing you with advance notice of the July launch so that you and your staff will have the information you'll need to answer questions or point residents in the right direction. In addition to a soft launch in July, we'll also be expanding promotions in the fall, at a time when homeowners return to their regular routines after summer, and to coincide with October's Energy Efficiency Month. We're also working with BC Hydro and FortisBC, the two main electric utility companies in the province, to help spread the word about where to take these energy-efficient CFLs and tubes for safe recycling.

Coming Soon

Your help in spreading the word about the new program is appreciated. To assist, we'll be sending out a "Launch Kit" this June. Inside the kit, you'll find all the information you'll need including:

- Colourful posters to place in high traffic areas and to use at special events
- Handy program information postcard to use as a public handout
- A more complete Question and Answer piece with detailed program information to help you and your front line staff answer questions from the public
- Draft website copy – including important links to more information – for your website or newsletters, along with a copy of the program logo
- Link to the up-to-date list of collection sites
- Key contact information.

Anything we can do to spread the word to residents in your area will help make these energy-efficient lights even greener, by keeping them out of our landfills and sending them for safe recycling. Thank you for any assistance you can provide!

Other Ideas Welcome

If there is anything else we can help with, please contact Andrea Kennedy at lights@productcare.org or 604-592-2972 local 208.

Reminder for Local Governments

Need info and support for your annual recycling calendar? Contact Andrea at lights@productcare.org or 604-592-2972 local 208.

Quick Facts

When: The British Columbia CFL and Fluorescent Tube Stewardship Program switches on July 1, 2010.

What: The program will provide drop off locations across BC to collect and safely recycle residential CFLs and fluorescent tubes. Currently, it does not include commercial or industrial bulbs and tubes – a program for those products starts in 2012.

Who: The new return program is being managed by Product Care Association, the same industry-sponsored, non-profit agency that manages other product stewardship programs in BC for paint, flammable liquids and pesticides. The program is an Extended Producer Responsibility Stewardship program mandated by the BC Recycling Regulation and is intended to place responsibility for these types of products with the producers of the products.

Where: Product Care is establishing a network of collection sites across BC. A listing of depots, along with program details will be provided in your "Launch Kit" closer to July 1st. The collection sites will be different from the Product Care Paint and Paint Plus collection network so it will be important to check the Product Care depot finder or call the Recycling Council of BC once the program starts. In the meantime, we recognize that some locations are already providing this collection service. To find the location nearest you, simply contact the BC Recycling Council Hotline at 1-800-667-4321.

How: After fluorescent bulbs and tubes are returned, they will be transported to a processing plant to safely separate materials under controlled conditions. Materials such as glass, metal and the mercury-phosphor compound will be sent for safe recycling. The program will strive to reach the target of recycling 100% of the material recovered.

How much: The new program will be funded by eco-fees, similar to those currently charged on paints, pesticides and electronics. There will be no charge for residents to return their used fluorescent lights.

Why: This new program is a big benefit to BC residents – they'll have a safe place to take old CFLs and fluorescent tubes. By using these energy-efficient lights, we'll all help to conserve energy, save money on electricity bills and protect the environment by returning the burned out bulbs for safe recycling.

For More Information:

Visit: www.productcare.org/lights

Email: lights@productcare.org

Phone: (604) 592-2972 local 208

