



recycle it's smart business

Fluorescent Lighting

Efficient for Offices, Warehouses and Retail Stores, Illegal to Put in the Trash

Because fluorescent bulbs and tubes produce less heat than incandescent lighting, they are four to six times more efficient to use.

You can buy a 15-watt fluorescent bulb that produces the same amount of light as a 60-watt incandescent bulb.

However, fluorescent lighting contains small quantities of mercury, cadmium and antimony and, if disposed of improperly, the mercury can travel from the soil to various water sources.

Not only is the mercury a danger to fish taken from these waters, but it moves up the food chain to humans. Mercury is poisonous to the human nervous system.

"Universal Waste" Defined

There is a category of hazardous waste called "Universal Waste." In addition to fluorescent bulbs and tubes, this category includes household batteries, cathode ray tubes, instruments that contain mercury, TVs, computers, printers, copiers, fax machines, cell and telephones, VCRs, DVDs and calculators. None can legally be placed in the trash.

Handling and Safety Tips

Store fluorescent tubes and bulbs no longer than one year and always label them with the date they became waste. For safety, store and transport bulbs and tubes in their original boxes.

McCourtney Road Transfer Station

accepts electronic and universal waste for recycling every day of the week.

Hours of Operation

Hours are 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for recycling of universal and electronic waste.

Questions?

Contact the Nevada County Recycles Hotline at 265-1768 or visit www.NevadaCountyRecycles.com to learn more about using and recycling fluorescent lighting.



Why Use Fluorescent Lamps and Tubes?

- energy-efficient alternative to incandescent lamps
- cost less to use
- reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- last up to 10 times longer than standard incandescent light bulbs

Illegal to Put in Your Trash

The State of California Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that fluorescent tubes and bulbs are hazardous waste and must be recycled by taking them to a hazardous waste collection center.