

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs

How does a compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) work?

Fluorescent light bulbs (including compact fluorescents) are more energy-efficient than regular bulbs because of the different method they use to produce light.



- **Regular bulbs (incandescent bulbs)** create light by heating a filament inside the bulb; the heat makes the filament white-hot, producing the light that you see. A lot of the energy used to create the heat that lights an incandescent bulb is wasted.
- **Fluorescent bulbs**, on the other hand, contain a gas that produces invisible ultraviolet light (UV) when the gas is excited by electricity. Because fluorescent bulbs don't use heat to create light, they use 1/3 of the energy that regular incandescent bulbs use.

Is it true that CFLs contain mercury? Why and how much?

Mercury is an essential, irreplaceable element in CFLs and is what allows the bulb to be an efficient light source. CFLs contain an average of 5 milligrams (amount about the size of the tip of a ball-point pen). By comparison, older home thermometers contain 500 milligrams of mercury.

What should I do if a CFL breaks?

Because there is such a small amount of mercury in CFLs, your greatest risk if a bulb breaks is getting cut from glass shards. You can minimize any risks by following these proper clean-up and disposal guidelines:

- Sweep up—don't vacuum—all of the glass fragments and fine particles.
- Place broken pieces in a sealed plastic bag.
- Wipe the area with a damp paper towel.
- Put the used towel in the plastic bag as well.

Local disposal for CFL bulbs

Contact information for disposal in Island and Skagit and Whatcom Counties:

Island County	Skagit County	Whatcom County
(360) 679-7386	(360) 424-9532	(360) 380-4640
3 locations	Solid Waste Transfer Station	Disposal of Toxics
Bayview, Coupeville and Oak Harbor	14104 Ovenell Rd, Mt Vernon	3505 Airport Dr, Bellingham

ENERGY STAR® Qualified Compact Fluorescent Light Bulb Rebate

All Puget Sound Energy residential electric customers can get **\$2 - \$6** off a variety of ENERGY STAR® qualified compact fluorescent light bulbs with coupons available at participating retailers, or by calling an [Energy Advisor](#) at 1-800-562-1482.



Visit participating Home Depot and Lowe's stores for various instant coupons redeemable for **\$2 - \$6** off ENERGY STAR qualified standard twist, specialty (vanity, globe, reflectors, and 3-way), and multi-pack CFL bulbs.

Visit participating Fred Meyer, McLendon Hardware, Bartell Drugs, and Walgreens stores for various instant coupons redeemable for **\$2 - \$3** off ENERGY STAR qualified standard twist and specialty (globe, reflectors, and 3-way) CFL bulbs.

Participating Retailers for PSE's ENERGY STAR® Qualified CFL Bulb Rebate

City	Retailer	Address
Anacortes	Ace Hardware of Anacortes	1720 Q Ave
Anacortes	Sebo's Hardware and Equipment Rental	1102 Commercial Ave
Anacortes	Walgreens	909 17th Street
Bellingham	Fred Meyer	1225 W Bakerview Rd
Bellingham	Fred Meyer	800 Lakeway Drive
Bellingham	Hardware Sales	2034 James St
Bellingham	Home Depot	420 Telegraph Rd
Bellingham	Lowe's	1050 E Sunset Drive
Bellingham	Village Lighting	1616 N State Street
Bellingham	Walgreens	1070 E Sunset Drive
Bellingham	Walgreens	4090 Guide Meridian Rd
Clinton	Jim's Hardware	4777 Commercial
Clinton	Lumbermen's	11219 SR 525
Ferndale	Ferndale True Value Hardware	2000 Main St

City	Retailer	Address
Ferndale	Portal Way Farm and Garden/True Value Hardware	6100 Portal Way
Ferndale	Walgreens	1901 Main St
Freeland	Ace Hardware/Freeland Home Center	1609 E Main St
Freeland	Building Source Inc	1694 Main Street
Lynden	Ace Hardware & Sports	1736 Front Street
Lynden	Westside Building Supply Do It Center	8353 Guide Meridian Road
Lynden	Fairway True Value Hardware	1191 17th St
Mount Vernon	Kaptein Ace Hardware	1420 Riverside Dr.
Mount Vernon	Lowe's	1717 Freeway Dr
Oak Harbor	Oak Harbor Ace Hardware Inc	150 SE Pioneer Way
Oak Harbor	DECA/Whidbey Island	2090 N. Coral Sea Ave
Oak Harbor	Home Depot	31800 SR 20
Oak Harbor	Navy Exchange - Whidbey Island	2110 N. Coral Sea Ave
Sedro Woolley	Sedro Woolley True Value Hardware	100 Ferry St

Other Energy Star Rebates

Find out how to put cash in your pocket when you buy an energy efficient ENERGY STAR® qualified product or appliance with one of the rebates below. Visit <http://pse.com/solutions/rebatesonallrebates.aspx>.