

LIGHT BULB RECYCLING






Many light bulbs contain trace amounts of mercury and other hazardous material that must be handled properly. There are many drop-off and mail-in options to recycle and dispose of various household light bulbs.

No light bulbs are accepted in curbside recycling.

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

	HHW at ARL*	Home Depot	IKEA	Lowe's	Batteries Plus	Household Trash	Electronics at ARL*
CFL bulbs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
CFL tubes	✓		✓		✓		
LED bulbs	✓				✓		
Halogen bulbs					✓	✓	
Incandescent bulbs					✓	✓	
String lights							✓

*Alpha Ridge Landfill, 2350 Marriottsville Rd, Marriottsville, HHW open to Howard County residents. Open only on Saturdays, April-November.

CFLs (bulbs & tubes)		Commonly used bulbs and tubes that use less energy than incandescent. Contains trace amounts of mercury and should not be disposed in household trash. Care should be taken to avoid breakage.
LED		Long lasting and very energy efficient! LED bulbs use less energy than CFLs and incandescent bulbs. Glass, metal and plastic can be readily recycled.
Halogen		Made from thicker glass and less prone to breakage. Some recycling options do exist, but these bulbs can also be set out in household trash. Wrap bulb before disposal.
Incandescent		Some recycling options do exist, but these bulbs can also be set out in household trash. Wrap bulb before disposal.
String lights		String lights contain copper which is valuable for recycling. Please bring these to the electronics section at the Alpha Ridge Landfill for proper recycling. Never put string lights (or other bulbs) in your curbside recycling.

Broken Bulbs?

CFLs and tubes contain trace amounts of mercury sealed in glass tubing. It is important to secure these bulbs, especially before recycling and disposal. In the event that a CFL breaks, please follow proper cleanup procedures. For bulbs that do not contain mercury (incandescent, LED, etc.) please be sure to wrap bulbs before disposal to protect collection staff.

OTHER RESOURCES

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs) | US EPA

Earth911 - More Ideas, Less Waste

Lamp Recycle – Environmental Responsibility Starts Here

NOTE: Howard County does not endorse independent programs or retailers.



KnowBeforeYouThrow.org | 410-313-6444