

# New law requires proper disposal of batteries, fluorescent bulbs and electronics

**O**n February 9, a new state law went into effect making it illegal to dispose of batteries, older household thermostats, glass thermometers containing mercury, fluorescent light bulbs and electronic equipment in household or public trash containers.

## Household batteries

Batteries contain potentially toxic metals, such as cadmium, zinc, lithium and nickel, and should be disposed of at public recycling centers located throughout Davis. The Yolo County Division of Integrated Waste Management collects the batteries from these centers and recycles them. The following locations will accept 6-volt, 9-volt, AAA, AA, C and D batteries:

■ **Davis Senior Center:** 646 A Street

■ **Longs Drug Stores:** 1550 East Covell Boulevard and 1741 West Covell Boulevard

■ **Rite Aid:** 655 Russell Boulevard and 2135 Cowell Boulevard

■ **Hibbert Lumber:** Fifth and G streets  
 ■ **Davis Ace Hardware:** Third and G streets (accepts rechargeable batteries)  
 ■ **Radio Shack:** 634 G Street (accepts rechargeable batteries)

## Prevent mercury contamination

Fluorescent light bulbs, older household thermostats, glass thermometers, button batteries for watches, calculators and hearing aids, and electronic devices (cell phones, game consoles, computers) can no longer be disposed of in the trash because mercury can be released into the air or water if these items are broken.

Mercury is a highly toxic metal that is harmful to both humans and wildlife. It can be in liquid or gaseous form. Exposure to even small amounts of mercury over a long period of time may cause negative health effects.

Fluorescent and High-Intensity Discharge lamps (HID) are excellent energy-efficient choices because they can use less electricity. New compact fluorescent light bulbs last longer and use only 25 percent of the energy as incandescent bulbs. However, used fluorescent and HID lamps must be disposed of properly because they also contain mercury.

Fluorescent light bulbs and mercury thermostats are collected at the bi-monthly Household Hazardous Waste



Drop off old electronics at the Yolo County Landfill for free!

collection events at the Yolo County Central Landfill located at 44090 County Road 28H. These collection events take place on certain Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Collection dates for 2006 are May 20, July 15, September 9 and November 18.

■ Bring used fluorescent light bulbs to the hazardous waste collection for free and proper disposal.

■ Do not place used fluorescent light bulbs in the trash.

■ Do not break or crush fluorescent bulbs.

Electronics are accepted at the Yolo County Central Landfill for recycling free-of-charge Monday through Saturday, 6:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sundays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Televisions, computer monitors,

CPUs, keyboards, typewriters, cellular phones, fax machines, printers, stereos and VCRs can be dropped off at the landfill for recycling. Remember that this service is FREE.

The information listed above is for local households only. If you have a business that generates hazardous waste, call the Yolo County Department of Public Works at (530) 666-8852 or (530) 666-8856.

For information about and maps to the Yolo County Central Landfill, visit: [www.yolocounty.org/recycle/yccl.htm](http://www.yolocounty.org/recycle/yccl.htm).

For more information about battery and electronic recycling, call (530) 666-8856. For more Davis recycling information, visit [www.davisrecycling.org](http://www.davisrecycling.org).



Bring your old batteries to one of several recycling centers throughout Davis.

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