



## City of Davis Public Works Department

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Environmental column

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### DAVIS ACE HARDWARE RECYCLES FLUORESCENTS

At last, at long last, there is a place in Davis where residents can take their fluorescent bulbs and tubes to be recycled!

Starting July 18, Davis Ace Hardware began accepting fluorescent light bulbs and tubes up to 4 ft in length for recycling from Davis residents.

This landmark recycling opportunity is made possible by a grant that Yolo County received from the California Integrated Waste Management Board to increase proper disposal of Hazardous Waste. The fluorescents will continue to be accepted at Davis Ace as long as the grant money is available to continue paying for the boxes.



Bring fluorescent bulbs and tubes (up to 4 ft in length) to the register in the Hardware building at Davis Ace Hardware for recycling.

The California Department of Toxic Substance Control banned fluorescent light bulbs from the trash February 2006. Fluorescents bulbs and tubes contain mercury gas, and when broken, the gas is released in the air. Broken tubes/bulbs in a trash can or dumpster can create clouds of mercury gas that can linger around the area for hours, exposing anyone nearby to the harmful gas.

Up until now, the only way to properly dispose of fluorescents bulbs and tubes was to bring them to the monthly household hazardous waste (HHW) drop-off days at the landfill. The landfill will continue to accept fluorescents at their monthly HHW drop-off events, but this new drop-off center gives Davis residents another way to recycle them.

Other HHW such as paints, propane cylinders and pesticides, still need to be disposed of during a household hazardous waste drop-off day at the landfill.

If you want to bring your fluorescent light bulbs in for recycling, please be sure to handle the fluorescents with care. Fluorescents bulbs and tubes (no longer than 4 ft in length) should be brought to the front desk in the hardware department for recycling. Tubes longer than 4 ft need to be taken to the landfill during a HHW drop-off event. Please remember that this program is for residents only—not for businesses!

### REUSE YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS!

The annual turnover time is almost here! That crazy time of year when apartment leases end and it seems like half the town is moving! If you or someone you know is moving, please consider donating unwanted items instead of throwing them away. Each year, many people resort to “dumpster diving” to retrieve good items that were thrown away by residents that are in a hurry to vacate their homes before their lease is up. Instead of tossing your stuff in the trash, please donate it for reuse.

There are many places in Davis where you can bring your stuff for reuse. The SPCA Thrift Store, R & R Thrift Store and R & R Consignment all take previously owned items for reuse. Check out the City of Davis **Recyclopedia** online at [www.davisrecycling.org](http://www.davisrecycling.org) for places to reuse and recycle everything from refrigerators, clothing, home décor and furniture.

### FREE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DROP-OFF EVENT

Don't miss this month's free HHW drop-off events today and tomorrow, August 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 2:00pm at the Yolo County Central Landfill! Bring in your paints, pesticides, fluorescent light bulbs, household cleaners, expired medicines and more for FREE and safe disposal. Mark your calendar for the household hazardous waste drop-off dates next month, September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

Check out the reuse opportunities at the landfill as well! The Saturday following each HHW drop-off event is Reusable Products Day. All the reusable things collected the weekend before are available for FREE! Stop by the landfill August 18<sup>th</sup> from 9:00-11:00 am to take your pick of free paints, fertilizers, household cleaners and more!

For more information, visit [www.davisrecycling.org](http://www.davisrecycling.org) or email me at [PWweb@cityofdavis.org](mailto:PWweb@cityofdavis.org).