



City of Davis Public Works Department

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DAVIS ACE HARDWARE RECYCLES FLUORESCENTS

Starting today, Davis Ace Hardware will begin accepting fluorescent light bulbs and tubes (up to 4 ft. in length) for recycling from Davis and Yolo County residents.

This recycling opportunity is made possible by a hazardous waste grant received by Yolo County from the California Integrated Waste Management Board. Several retail stores in Yolo County have agreed to collect the fluorescents from residents in a Take-It-Back partnership. As part of the partnership, the County pays for the disposal of the fluorescents and the retail stores provide the staff to collect the tubes and the storage space for the boxes of burned out fluorescent tubes. Once they are filled, these boxes are shipped off to a fluorescent lamp recycler, where the mercury is safely captured.

The fluorescents will continue to be accepted at Davis Ace Hardware as long as the grant money remains to pay for the boxes.

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 option for Yolo County residents to properly dispose of their fluorescents bulbs and tubes was to bring them to the monthly household hazardous waste drop-off days at the landfill.

The landfill will continue to accept fluorescents at their monthly household hazardous waste events, but this new drop-off center gives Davis residents another way to recycle them. Other household hazardous waste such as paints, propane cylinders and pesticides, still need to be disposed of during a household hazardous waste drop-off day at the landfill. The next household hazardous waste drop-off days will be August 10 and 11 from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm.

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 counter in the hardware department for recycling.

Davis Ace Hardware has also shown environmental stewardship through the Yolo County household battery collection program. Along with the Davis Senior Center, Longs, Rite Aid and Hibbert Lumber, Davis Ace Hardware has been collecting household batteries from Davis residents for 8 years.

For more information, visit www.davisrecycling.org.

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