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Governor's Awards**Sustainable Tech Award****GLRPPR****PNEAC****Lamp Recycling and Disposal****Introduction**

Fluorescent, high intensity discharge, metal halide, high-pressure sodium, and neon lamps and their ballasts contain PCBs, mercury, and other toxic chemicals. In order to properly comply with federal and state regulations, these materials must be disposed of properly. This reference guide will point you toward information sources that will help you meet the disposal requirements for these items.

The reference guide is not exhaustive. It includes information that will help you continue research at your local library. Materials held in the WMRC Library collection are followed by a call number in square brackets (*[Call Number]*). The WMRC Library does not lend materials directly to individuals. However, the Library does accept [interlibrary loan requests](#). E-mail library@wmrc.uiuc.edu with comments or questions.

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Books

Some helpful Library of Congress Subject Headings for locating books on this topic include:

- Ballasts (Electricity) -- Environmental aspects
- Ballasts (Electricity) -- Recycling
- Ballasts (Electricity) -- Waste disposal
- Electric lighting, Mercury vapor -- Environmental aspects
- Electric lighting, Mercury vapor -- Recycling
- Electric lighting, Mercury vapor -- Waste disposal
- Electric lighting, Sodium vapor -- Environmental aspects
- Electric lighting, Sodium vapor -- Recycling
- Electric lighting, Sodium vapor -- Waste disposal
- Fluorescent lamps -- Environmental aspects
- Fluorescent lamps -- Recycling
- Fluorescent lamps -- Waste disposal

The Dewey Decimal classification number for lighting is 621.32. Vapor (Luminous-tube) lighting is classed in 621.327. Specific types of vapor lighting are classed as follows:

- Fluorescent lighting: 621.3273
- Mercury-vapor lighting: 621.3274
- Neon lighting: 621.3275
- Sodium-vapor lighting: 621.3276

Fluorescent Lamps and the Environment (Rosslyn, VA : National Electrical Manufacturers Association, 2001? -- online at <http://www.nema.org/lamprecycle/recyclers.html>)

Covers mercury use, environmental benefits, and disposal requirements.

Lighting (From the [Energy Star Building Manual](#). Washington, DC : U.S. EPA Energy Star Program, 2001 -- online at [http://yosemite1.epa.gov/ESTAR/business.nsf/attachments/Lighting.pdf/\\$File/Lighting.pdf?OpenElement](http://yosemite1.epa.gov/ESTAR/business.nsf/attachments/Lighting.pdf/$File/Lighting.pdf?OpenElement))

The last section of this chapter contains information about disposal options.

Lighting Waste Disposal (Washington, DC : U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air and Radiation, 1998 -- online at <http://www.nesllc.com/acrobat/wastedi.pdf>) [EPA 430 B-95 004].

Although somewhat dated, provides a good overview of how to dispose of lamps and ballasts.

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Fact Sheets

For links to state fact sheets, see the State Information section that follows.

Disposal of Fluorescent Lamps and Ballasts

<http://www.buildinggreen.com/features/ds/disposal.html>

Article from the October 1997 issue of *Environmental Building News*.

Disposal of PCB Capacitors from Light Ballasts (2001)

<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/hmwp/Factsheets/ballasts.html>

U.S. Army Hazardous and Medical Waste Management fact sheet on ballast disposal. Includes a list of PCB capacitor recyclers.

First PCBs, Now DEHP Ballasts

<http://www.facilitymanagement.com/articles/artdisp.html>

Article covering disposal options for fluorescent light ballasts containing di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP).

Light Guide: Lighting Waste Disposal

<http://www.lightsearch.com/resources/lightguides/wastedisposal.html>

From the Light Guide published by Lightsearch.com, an online source for lighting specifiers and buyers.

PCBs in Fluorescent Light Fixtures (EPA Region 10)

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/owcm.nsf/>

[88fa11a23f885ef388256500062d635/d053fb2a8fcb715882569ed00782e8a?](http://yosemite.epa.gov/r10/owcm.nsf/88fa11a23f885ef388256500062d635/d053fb2a8fcb715882569ed00782e8a?OpenDocument)

[OpenDocument](#)

TSCA Disposal Requirements for Fluorescent Light Ballasts

<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/pcb/Ballastchart.pdf>

Table of federal regulatory requirements based on on the condition of the ballast.

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State Information

Fact Sheet Used Fluorescent Light Ballasts (WA)

<http://www.metrokc.gov/hazwaste/lhwmp/fluor2.html>

Fluorescent Lamp Management for Consumers

<http://www.state.ma.us/dep/files/lamps.htm>

Fact sheet from the [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection](#). Has MA specific information about lamp and ballast recyclers.

How to Manage Used Fluorescent and High-Intensity-Discharge Lamps as Universal Wastes (Illinois EPA)

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/fluorescent-lamps/>

Managing PCBs in Fluorescent Light Ballasts (MN)

http://www.pca.state.mn.us/waste/pubs/4_48f.pdf

State Lamp Information Web Links

<http://www.nema.org/lamprecycle/contacts/weblinks.html>

Links to fact sheets and each state's Universal Waste Rule.

State Lamp Recycling Contact Information

<http://www.nema.org/lamprecycle/contacts/statecontact.html>

Directory of state agency contacts.

Directories

This category includes directories of lamp recycling services and non or less toxic product alternatives. For directories of green building web sites, see the [Web Sites](#) section.

Fluorescent Light Recycling

<http://www.recycle.net/recycle/Glass/bulb/>

Directory of recyclers

List of Companies Claiming to Process or Recycle Spent Mercury Lamps (July 2001)

<http://www.nema.org/lamprecycle/recyclers.html>

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Web Sites

These sites are portals or provide comprehensive online information about lighting waste disposal.

Lamprecycle.org

<http://www.nema.org/lamprecycle/>

One stop information source on lamp recycling. Developed by the lamp section of the National Electrical Manufacturers Association.

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