

Going Green in Londonderry

Recycling Programs for Fluorescent Lights

Mercury is nasty stuff. It gets into our air, soil and water from power plant emissions and from leaky landfills. New Hampshire and all other New England states have fish consumption advisories due to high levels of mercury in our lakes and streams. It can damage the brain, kidneys, liver and central nervous system.

This is why items with mercury were banned from NH landfills and incinerators in 2008. But now we have convenient ways to recycle mercury devices like fluorescent lights and traditional thermostats – easy, safe and lawful.

We are pleased to announce 2 new recycling programs for Londonderry residents and small businesses:

- Residents have 3 options in town, all free: 1. Available for the first time, all types of fluorescents and thermostats can be dropped off at Benson Lumber, year round; 2. The Town Drop-Off Center on West Road accepts these items Saturdays from 8am to 4pm (April to November). 3. Home Depot takes compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) – bulbs only – daily.
- Small businesses have had no convenient local option until now. Starting this summer, they are welcome to bring **all** types of fluorescents and thermostats to the Drop-Off Center Saturdays--up to 10 per week--for a very nominal fee (April – November). They can also bring CFLs (only) to Home Depot.

Help keep mercury out of our waste stream by recycling your fluorescent tubes, CFL bulbs and other mercury devices. Look for more information in our “Going Green” columns in this and future issues of the *Londonderry Times*.

Local contacts:

- Londonderry Public Works Dept.; 432-1100 x193
- dlimoli@londonderrynh.org or rkerry@londonderrynh.org
- www.londonderrynh.org/DPW

Paul Margolin, Londonderry Solid Waste and Environment Committee

Bob Kerry, Londonderry DPW environmental engineer