

Fluorescent Lights — Broken Bulb Cleanup



Using fluorescent lights saves you money on your energy bill. It also protects the environment by reducing the amount of energy—and pollution—produced by power plants. Fluorescent lights do, however, contain small amounts of mercury, so they need to be handled properly.

What to Do if a Bulb Breaks

- Avoid breathing vapors. Quickly open a window and have everyone leave the room.
- Let vapors vent for 10 minutes while collecting clean up supplies.
- Do not touch, vacuum, or sweep broken materials.
- Use stiff paper or cardboard to pick up large pieces.
- Use duct tape to pick up small pieces and powder.
- Wipe the area clean with a damp paper towel.
- Place all materials in a sealed, air tight container, preferably a glass jar with a metal lid or a sealable plastic bag.
- Wash your hands.
- Dispose of at **HazoHouse** — not in your trash.

For more information, call the solid waste hotline at (360)867-2664 or TDD 360-867-2603

www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/ehhm/mercury.htm



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