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ENERGY STAR® QUALIFIED COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHT BULBS FAST FACTS

Why to use ENERGY STAR Qualified CFLs:

- All CFLs are not created equal. To earn the government's ENERGY STAR mark, a CFL must meet strict energy efficiency standards set by the US Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy, as well as quality and lifetime guidelines.
- Last 6 to 10 times longer than standard incandescent bulbs
- Use 75% less energy than ordinary bulbs
- Save about \$30 or more in energy costs over each bulb's lifetime; change five bulbs to ENERGY STAR qualified options and save more than \$150!
- Fit in almost any fixture, for indoors and outdoors
- Convenient in hard-to-reach and high-use fixtures because of their long life
- Generate 75 percent less heat, cutting home cooling costs
- Provide the same amount of light (lumens) as standard incandescent bulbs, but use fewer watts (energy)
- Backed by a minimum 2-year manufacturer warranty
- Can prevent more than 400 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions each over their lifetime

Where to use:

- To get the most energy savings, replace bulbs where lights are on the most, such as your family and living room, kitchen, dining room, and porch.
- Remember, CFLs work better in open fixtures that allow air flow.

How to choose:

- Matching the right type of CFL to the right kind of fixture helps ensure that it will perform properly and last longer. Read the packaging to be sure that the type you choose works for the fixture you have in mind. For example:
 - For recessed fixtures, it is better to use a 'reflector' CFL instead of a standard type.
 - If a light fixture is connected to a dimmer or three-way switch, select CFLs that are labeled as appropriate for a dimmer or three-way switch.
- To get the right amount of light, choose an ENERGY STAR qualified light bulb that offers the same light output, or lumen rating, as the light you are replacing. The higher the lumen rating, the greater the light output.
- Choose the color that works best for you. For example, while most CFLs are created with warm colors (2700 to 3000 degrees Kelvin) for most rooms in your home, you might choose a cooler color (3500 to 6500 degrees Kelvin) for task lighting.

Close the loop – dispose of your CFL responsibly!

- Because CFLs contain a small amount of mercury, EPA recommends that you take advantage of local recycling options, if available in your area. To learn more about CFLs and mercury, including how to clean up a broken CFL and find proper disposal options, go to www.energystar.gov/CFLsandMercury.