



Tip of the Month

July 2010

Your guide to BC's new recycling programs!

What do fluorescent lamps, thermostats, audio/video equipment and household batteries have in common? As of July 1, 2010, they will all be incorporated into province-wide recycling programs.

LightRecycle Program

Product Care Association (PCA) in partnership with Electrical Equipment Manufacturers Association of Canada (EEMAC) has developed a recycling program for residential-use fluorescent lamps. The two types of fluorescent lamps included in the program are compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and fluorescent tubes. Both types can be dropped off for free at a number of depots across BC provided that they are fully intact and no longer than 8ft in length. The program will expand to include commercial or industrial use fluorescent lights and tubes in 2012.

The program is managed by PCA and funded through the collection of eco fees charged on the sale of fluorescent lamps. The eco fees vary by type and size of the fluorescent lamp and range from \$0.20 to \$0.40. For more information on the program or to locate the nearest drop-off location, call the RCBC Recycling Hotline or visit www.productcare.org/lights.

Switch the 'Stat Program

The Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI) has developed a recycling program for thermostats. The program includes electromechanical and electronic thermostats. Both types can be dropped off for free at number of participating retailers across BC as long as they are fully intact. A free mail-in option also exists for residents in remote areas.

The program is managed by Summerhill Impact (formerly known as the Clean Air Foundation) and is funded by the manufacturers and distributors that sell or import thermostats into BC. For more information on the program or to locate the nearest participating retailer, call the RCBC Recycling Hotline or visit www.switchthestat.ca.

Call2Recycle Program

The Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) has expanded their battery recycling program to include non-rechargeable batteries. Residents can now drop off household quantities of alkaline (AA, AAA, 9V), rechargeable (Ni-Cd, Ni-MH, Li-Ion), button cells, carbon zinc, lithium primary and small seal lead acid batteries at a number of participating retailers for free provided that each battery weighs less than 5kg. Participating retailers include Bell World, The Home Depot, RONA, Staples and London Drugs.

The program is funded by battery and product manufacturers. For more detailed information on the recycling program or to find the nearest participating retailer, call the RCBC Recycling Hotline or visit www.call2recycle.org.

Return-It Electronics Program

The Electronics Stewardship Association of BC (ESABC) has expanded their electronics recycling program to include audio and video equipment. Electronics now included in the program fall under one of ten categories:

- Display devices
- Desktop computers
- Portable computers
- Computer peripherals
- Computer scanners
- Printers and fax machines
- Non-cellular telephones and answering machines
- Home audio and video systems
- Personal or portable audio and video systems
- Vehicle audio and video systems (aftermarket)

These electronics can be dropped off at a number of depots across BC. The program is managed by Encorp Pacific and is funded through the collection of Environmental Handling Fees (EHFs) charged on the sale of new electronics. EHFs vary by electronic type and range from \$0.40 to \$31.75. For more information on the recycling program and to locate the nearest drop-off location, call the RCBC Recycling Hotline or visit www.encorp.ca/electronics.

At A Glance Table:

Recycling Program	LightRecycle	Switch the 'Stat	Return-It Electronic	Call2Recycle
Products Accepted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Compact fluorescent lights • Fluorescent tubes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electromechanical thermostats • Electronic thermostats 	New Products: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display devices • Computer scanners • Non-cellular telephones and answering machines • Home Audio and video systems • Personal or portable audio and video systems • Vehicle audio and video systems (aftermarket) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alkaline (AA, AAA, 9V) • Rechargeable (Ni-Cd, Ni-Md, Li-Ion) • Button cells • Carbon zinc • Lithium primary • Small sealed lead acid
Website	www.productcare.org/lights	www.switchthestats.ca	www.encorp.ca/electronics	www.call2recycle.org

Need more information?

Contact the **RCBC Recycling Hotline!**

Lower Mainland: 604-732-9253 | BC Toll-Free: 1-800-667-4321

Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-4pm

Recyclepedia: www.rcbc.bc.ca