



## **CONSERVATION ZONE**

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*Chief Energy Conservation*

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**Compact fluorescents light  
the way to a brighter future  
for Ontario**

I am revisiting the benefits of Compact Fluorescent Light bulbs (CFLs) for two reasons: (1) complacency because they're everywhere and (2) you may have had disappointing experiences with early CFLs so you may be unaware of significant product improvements. You really do need to give them another chance.

Did you know that up to 20 per cent of your monthly electricity bill goes to lighting your home? CFLs save you money: they use 75 per cent less electricity than a standard incandescent bulb and last much longer. Install them wherever you can.

High-quality CFL prices are now much lower. Light quality and brightness have improved. Most now turn on instantly. There are also speciality CFLs for use with dimmer switches and cold weather-rated bulbs for outdoor use. When in doubt, look for the Energy Star label on the box.

When they finally do burn out, don't toss them in the trash; make sure they go to a proper disposal program. Why? Because CFL light bulbs contain tiny amounts of mercury. Many retailers and municipalities have disposal programs for them.

If we all participate, there will be a huge energy and economic difference. The electricity saved that is attributable to CFL use in Ontario is as much as the annual power consumption of a city the size of Niagara Falls, Peterborough or Sudbury.

Do yourself a favour and see if you can install even one more CFL in your home or place of business this week.

*A special feature prepared and funded by  
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**[www.conservationbureau.on.ca](http://www.conservationbureau.on.ca)**

*To learn more about CFLs visit  
[www.everykilowattcounts.com](http://www.everykilowattcounts.com)*