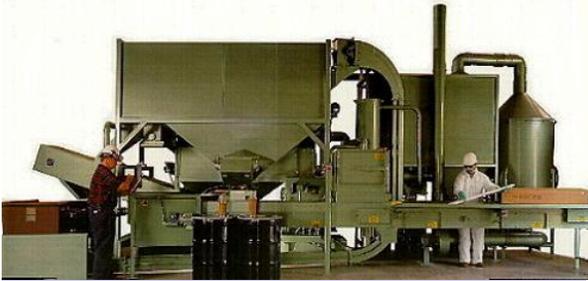


St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

There is an alternative. Waste lamps can be recycled. There are numerous recyclers around the country that will accept waste lamps and recycle the components found within a waste lamp.



Model LSS1 Recycling Unit

This service is not free. There are charges related to recycling waste lamps. These charges are competitive with disposal costs. The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe has created a demonstration project that will usher in a recycling alternative to the current disposal problems associated with waste lamps.



The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Transfer Station

For more information please contact the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's Solid Waste Management Program for a presentation.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAM

Please fill in this form and submit it to the Solid Waste Management Program

Business Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Current Method of Disposing Waste Lamps (circle one)

1. Regular Trash 2. Storage 3. Breaking

Would you be willing to contract with the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's Solid Waste Management Program to recycle waste lamps?

Yes No

Would you be willing to contract with another hauler to recycle waste lamps.

Yes No

If both answers are no, why?

1. Too costly 2. Too much effort
3. Insufficient Information 4. No Infrastructure

Would you like to speak with the Solid Waste Management Program to discuss this issue?

Yes No

St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Solid Waste Management Program

Office
Phone 518-358-5937
Fax 518-358-6252
Transfer Station
Phone 518-358-4632
Fax 518-358-4529
URL: www.srmtenv.org



Waste Lamp Recycling Project

Waste Lamp Recycling

Mercury contamination has affected Akwesasne severely over the course of the twentieth century. Twenty million tons of mercury are used in industry every year.



Through industrial discharges and smoke emissions mercury has found its way into the air, water, and soil.

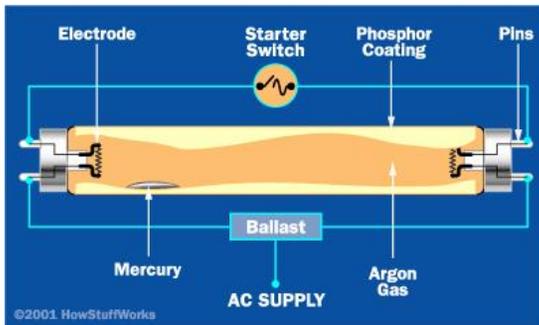
Mercury has been known as a toxin for a very long time. When mercury gets into the environment, it builds up in fish. Eating fish that are contaminated with mercury is dangerous, especially for unborn babies, infants, and children.

Regulations have helped reduce the amount of mercury in the environment by restricting discharges and emissions. However, mercury can slip into the environment when **Waste Lamps** (commonly called Fluorescent Lamps or Lights) are thrown in the trash.

Fluorescent Lights

Energy efficiency has been the focus of many programs to preserve natural resources, reduce consumption, and save money. Among the measures encouraged is the use of energy efficient lighting, particularly the use of fluorescent lights.

Fluorescent Light Detail

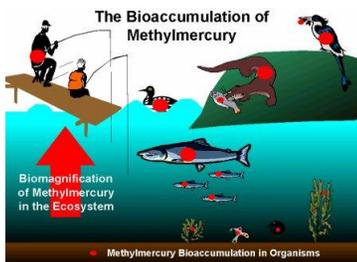


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Waste lamps utilize mercury vapor inside a vacuum tube lined with a phosphor coating to produce the same amount of light as incandescent lamps. The light comes from electricity passing through the mercury vapor which causes electrons to bounce off the phosphor coating.

Mercury contamination has affected the rivers, land, and air. Consequently, this contamination has entered the food chain through bioaccumulation, and because of the high levels of mercury that have accumulated in our fish, we have had to limit our fish intake. The diet that had sustained our people for thousands of years has been critically altered.

We must all do our part to minimize contamination and reduce our exposure to mercury and mercury compounds if we are to regain our health.



Waste Lamps have become prevalent in our modern society. Technology has allowed industry to create lighting methods that are much more energy efficient. Economies of scale have reduced costs in production of waste lamps, making this alternative competitive with conventional lighting.



Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (CFL's) have gained popularity since they fit in standard fixtures

The fluorescent light is a well received alternative to the incandescent lamp since it uses less electricity, lasts much longer than a regular incandescent bulb, and doesn't produce the amount of heat associated with incandescent bulbs. The fluorescent bulb also has many variations on the size and style of lamps available. An incandescent lamp can only offer the bulb in different shapes and sizes.

Typical Incandescent Bulbs



Disposal of Waste Lamps

Businesses, governments, and individuals have run into problems disposing of waste lamps. While large generators of hazardous waste may have to meet stringent requirements, small quantity generators (less than 100kg/mo) have significantly reduced management requirements. Lamps may also be managed under the Environmental Protection Agency's program for "universal" wastes. For information regarding specific requirements, contact your Tribal Environmental Department.

Four Foot Fluorescent Light Fixture



Most bulbs end up as hazardous waste that needs to be disposed of by specialized companies. This alternative is expensive. The costs include liabilities placed on these companies for compliance with OSHA, USDOT, and USEPA regulations. The expense involved in proper disposal has led to problems of illegal disposal, unsafe practices (such as employees breaking bulbs to bypass certain regulations, which is very dangerous to their health) and prolonged storage by people who are unaware of how to dispose of the bulbs.

Recommended Disposal

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's Solid Waste Management Program is participating in the EPA's Lamp Recycling Outreach Project. This project advocates recycling of waste lamps.

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe has created a competitively priced demonstration recycling project that will usher in an alternative to the current lamp disposal methods.