

## LED Lighting

### Why we care

“Turn off the lights” is the mantra we have heard since childhood, and it’s important, but there are other great ways to save lighting energy. Lighting currently accounts for ten percent of the energy consumption in an average U.S. household. Reducing that proportion by moving toward the latest technology is one of the quickest, easiest, and least expensive ways to cut our home’s energy use.

### Simple, positive steps

- Make the switch to LEDs. They...
  - Use 80% less energy than incandescents. Incandescent bulbs release 90% of their energy as heat, and compact fluorescents (CFLs), about 80%.
  - Last longer. You would have to buy 40 incandescent bulbs to match their longevity!
  - Have no mercury, attain full brightness without delay, and can be turned on and off frequently with no adverse impact.
  - Cost more upfront but save money in the long term. Check out this [guide](#).
- To insure quality and lifespan, only purchase brand name products, such as GE, Philips, Osram-Sylvania, or Cree. To compare lumens and color, visit a shop that has a display of lights:
  - Globe Lighting, 1919 NW 19th, Portland
  - Sunlan, 3901 N Mississippi, Portland
  - Pacific Lamp Wholesale, 10725 SW 5th, Beaverton
- Continue to turn off lights when not in use, unless using fluorescent bulbs which burn out more quickly when turned off and on. Leave lights on when...
  - CFLs – leaving room for less than 30 minutes.
  - Tube fluorescents – leaving room for less than 15 minutes.
- Remember to save burned out CFLs and LEDs for recycling. See [Find a Recycler](#).

**Questions or feedback? Contact Jeanne Roy at [jeanne@earthleaders.org](mailto:jeanne@earthleaders.org).**