

# The Lamp Standard

Take Back the Light's Quarterly Newsletter  
June 2011



Dear ,

Welcome to Take Back the Light's (TBTL) Quarterly Newsletter, **The Lamp Standard**.

This newsletter is your source of information for program developments, relevant lamp recycling news, and policy updates.

The TBTL program is a **simple, low-cost, solution** for businesses and organizations of any size **to divert mercury-containing lamps** from the waste stream and recycle them responsibly.

If you and your organization would like to participate in TBTL, please visit our [website](#) or email [sarah@rco.on.ca](mailto:sarah@rco.on.ca) to find out how this successful lamp recycling program can work for you.

As always, **we want to hear from you!** If you have any questions, comments, or would like to share your exciting news, please **reply to this message** with your suggestions.

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## Program News

### New TBTL lamp processor standard available

The **RCO - Take Back the Light - Program Requirements for Mercury Containing Lamps Recycling Processors** provides the the minimum requirements that a mercury containing lamp processor shall comply with in order to be approved by the Recycling Council of Ontario to service its Take Back the Light program.



Recycling  
Council of  
Ontario

## Participant Spotlight



### Conestoga Mall first shopping centre to Take Back the Light

Congratulations to Conestoga Mall in Waterloo for being the first shopping centre to be part of the Take Back the Light program.

Managed by Ivanhoe Cambridge, the Recycling Council of Ontario commends them for their continued commitment to environmental sustainability.

## TBTL Around Town

In our continuing effort to grow the program, RCO and



The criteria in the standard aim to ensure that all lamps generated by participants in the TBTL program are recovered and processed in a way that minimizes negative environmental impacts under strict health and safety procedures, and the the maximum amount of each bulb/lamp collected is recovered for reuse in new products. For more information about the standard please contact [sarah@rc0.on.ca](mailto:sarah@rc0.on.ca).

## Newest participants to Take Back the Light

We would like to welcome to the following organizations who have recently taken the environmentally responsible step of recycling their lamps through Take Back the Light. Congratulations on joining the ranks of progressive companies that are recycling their mercury containing lamps.



**Steritech**

ECO-SHIFT  POWER CORP.



Westbury National Show Systems



## Make the most of your Take Back the Light promo materials

Take Back the Light (TBTL) is a recognized brand for companies striving to become more environmentally responsible. As a TBTL participant you should take advantage of this by making the most of your access to the brand and promotional materials.

### A few ideas on how to use the TBTL brand

Affix TBTL window cling stickers on the doors or windows of your buildings and on company vehicles.

On your company website, add the TBTL logo and link to your company's listing on the TBTL website.

Display your TBTL certificate in your office, lobby and on your website.



TBTL staff attended the following events since the last edition of the Lamp Standard.

**Springfest**  
Property Management and Building Operations Show April 6

**CANECT** Canadian Environmental Conference and Trade show May 17 &18

**Green Employers Conference**  
May 30

## Quick Links

[Register Now](#)

## [Why Take Back the Light](#)

[How do you clean up broken compact fluorescent bulbs \(CFLs\) and other fluorescent lamps?](#)

[More on us](#)

Suppliers and contractors, you can also include a TBTL postcard in mailings to clients.

And when you run out of materials, we will be happy to provide some more. Just contact [Sheila](#), TBTL's Program Coordinator.

## Applications now being accepted for RCO's Waste Minimization Awards

Imagine receiving an award at a Gala event from the Minister of Environment during Waste Reduction Week. It could be your company! If you are a registered participant in the Take Back the Light program, you are well positioned to receive recognition for your efforts. Please visit the Recycling Council of Ontario's [Awards site](#) for information on how to register, or contact RCO's event manager, Diane Blackburn at [events@rco.on.ca](mailto:events@rco.on.ca) or by calling 416-657-2797 ext. 4.

Ontario  
Waste  
Minimization  
Awards  
2011



## Industry News

### Government delays turning out lights on incandescent bulbs

The Conservative government wants to postpone pulling the plug on incandescent light bulbs saying it needs more time to allow for technological innovations and to deal with concerns about compact fluorescent lamps.

In a notice of a proposed regulatory change, quietly given in the middle of the election campaign on April 16, the Natural Resources department proposed pushing back the deadline for phasing out incandescent bulbs by two years.



Instead of getting rid of 100W and 75W incandescent bulbs by Jan. 1, 2012, the deadline would be Jan. 1, 2014.

The Dec. 31, 2012 deadline for 60W and 40W light bulbs would be pushed back to Dec. 31, 2014.

[Continue reading at the Calgary Herald](#)

### Sears bans sale of incandescents

This fall, you will no longer be able to buy incandescent and halogen lighting at any Sears stores across Canada.



The national retailer is showing its support for sustainability by eliminating the sale of the inefficient light bulbs by September and boosting its stock of light-emitting diode (LED) and compact fluorescent lights (CFL).

[Continue reading on the Sears site](#)

## \$10 million prize to be awarded in contest to design ultra efficient light bulb

When the U.S. Department of Energy announced a contest to create an ultra-efficient replacement for the common 60-watt incandescent light bulb last year, the US\$10-million prize was enticing enough to send aspiring Edisons all over America to their basements to tinker. But the reward - which includes the potential for federal sales contracts - may ultimately go to Philips, the Amsterdam-based electronics giant.

The company recently submitted the contest's first entry, a radical new bulb featuring LEDs, or light-emitting diodes. As long as the product meets the competition's performance specifications, Philips will be declared a winner of what the Department of Energy has dubbed the L Prize. Philips says its LED bulb does indeed satisfy the requirements of the prize. That means it uses no more than 10 watts of power, yet produces more light than a traditional 60-watt bulb, and lasts for 25,000 hours, or 25 times as long as regular bulbs do.

[Continue reading at Canadian Business](#)

## About RCO

The Recycling Council of Ontario (RCO) is a not-for-profit, membership-based organization involved in policy, education and project work around the issues of consumption, waste generation, reduction and diversion, and recycling.

The RCO believes that society must minimize its impact on the environment by eliminating waste. To that end, our mission is to inform and educate all members of society about the generation of waste, the avoidance of waste, the more efficient use of resources and the benefits and/or consequences of these activities.

**Sincerely,**

*Sarah Mills,*  
Program Manager

[Forward email](#)



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