

The Lamp Standard

Quarterly Newsletter

September 2010



Dear Jodi,

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 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

TBTL hires Program Coordinator

Originally from Newfoundland, Jodi has over 5 years experience in the environmental field and much of that time was spent honing her program development and communications expertise.

Jodi is currently working with us on a part time basis, Tuesdays, Wednesdays

A program of



Recycling
Council of
Ontario

Participant Spotlight



Green Energy Dynamics was Take Back the Light's first lighting contractor. GED is an Energy Services Company with a twist! It recycles more lamps than it replaces. They offer a Province-wide pre-paid fluorescent lamp recycling service that makes it easy for small and medium sized businesses to dispose of their fluorescent lamps responsibly.

Quick Tip

Did you know that the average standard 4 ft fluorescent lamp contains **12mg** of mercury?

source: **CCME**

TBTL Around Town

and half day on Fridays. We are very excited to have her. Welcome aboard Jodi!

She can be reached at 416-657-2797 ext. 6 or by email at jodi@rco.on.ca

Lamp Reporting - a MUST...

Program participants are required to report to TBTL when they send lamps for recycling. This is an essential component of the ongoing success of the program and ensures participants are recycling their lamps.

Please make sure to complete the "Request for Service Form". Need one? Reply to this message or email jodi@rco.on.ca with "Request for Service Form in the subject line.

Promoting YOU!

We want to recognize and promote your efforts to be more environmentally responsible. Tell us about what your business/organization is doing in addition to being part of TBTL and we will feature you in our newsletter.

We also want to promote industry-related events that you know of or if you are hosting an event that might be of interest to the TBTL community. Send us the details and we'll put it in our newsletter.

Email jodi@rco.on.ca with all the details.

Canadian Tire's Take Back Program Up & Running

As a partner of TBTL, Canadian Tire Stores across Ontario are providing a one-stop shop for consumers to purchase & recycle their fluorescent lamps for free.

All bulbs will be recycled through **Take Back the Light**.

[Read more](#)



[Learn more](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

Organic glow



More choices for energy-saving lighting

Sep 14th 2010

WITH many countries phasing out the use of traditional incandescent light bulbs to save energy, the lighting business has taken on a new dimension and is now offering a broader range of products than the one perfected in 1879 by Thomas Edison. There are compact fluorescent lights (CFLs), light-emitting diodes (LEDs) and some firms are developing quantum dots, which are lights made from tiny crystals of



On Sept 30, TBTL will be exhibiting at the Partners in Project Green Eco-Business Summit being held at the International Centre.

The Summit will focus on giving businesses the skills they need to realize energy reduction opportunities - getting beyond the big picture of why businesses should reduce their costs, and giving hands-on training on how to identify, sell and implement energy projects.

The Summit also includes tours of several successful local businesses.



On the 7th of October, TBTL will be exhibiting at EnviroPharm 2010 Conference being held at the Old Mill Inn and Spa.

This one day event is being hosted by EAG focusing on updates of environmental regulation that concern Healthcare Professionals.

2010 Waste Minimization Awards



**Gala Awards Dinner
Oct. 21, 2010**

For Gala Ticket Information, [click here](#)

semiconducting material. Now another new source of lighting, organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs), is starting to take the spotlight.

[Read more](#)

Hamilton: A milestone in greener lighting

It passed by without much mention, but early this summer a major milestone was reached in the realm of LED lighting.

Home Depot quietly began taking online orders for a light-emitting diode (LED) bulb designed to replace a standard 40-watt incandescent bulb. It consumes only 8.6 watts of power, boasts superior light quality, can be dimmed, and unlike compact fluorescent bulbs doesn't contain any mercury.

[Read More](#)

Eco Fees - Bringing Clarity

Many will remember the recent media hype regarding the application of the consumer eco fees that were widely talked about at the launch of the Municipal Hazardous and Special Waste (MHSW) Program on July 1, 2010. (the same time as the introduction of Ontario's new HST).

Unfortunately, media coverage did not exactly provide important details and were sometimes even inaccurate about their description of these fees. Stewardship laws require producers to cover the costs of end of life management but these laws do not dictate how these producers/stewards manage these costs. Some may be shared amongst their commercial supply chains, some may pass them on to their consumers, and some may choose to absorb these costs. Extended Producer Responsibility is regulated under the Waste Diversion Act, which does NOT prevent producers or their retail partners, from passing on these costs to consumers.

Many media outlets characterized the fees as government taxes which is completely untrue. The decision to pass down the financial costs is a business decision made by the producers and retailers that bring the product to the market.

Due to consumer confusion and media attention, government decided to review the MHSW Program for a period of 90 days to examine the issue of consumer fees at the point of sale. The terms of that review include issues such as consumer protection, transparency to ensure that all members of the chain producers through to consumers understand the intent of the regulation and know that fees at the point of sale are a producer/retailer decision and accountability, ensuring that program's collecting fees from producers are fully accountable for their finances and are charging only costs of managing these products under the best environmental standards.

What about TBTL?

While fluorescent lamps are one of the materials recognized under the MHSW plan, the fees don't affect TBTL. What the media hype has done however, is bring increased attention to fluorescent lamp recycling which I would say is good for all of us.

Check the links below for more info about eco fees, the MHSW Program, and Waste Diversion Ontario.

[Eco Fee Controversy](#)

Quick Links

[Register Now](#)

[Why Take Back the Light](#)

[More On Us](#)

[Stewardship Ontario](#)
[Waste Diversion Ontario](#)
[DoWhatYouCan.ca](#)

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
