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Environmental Protection  
Agency

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[www.epa.gov/osw](http://www.epa.gov/osw)

## Nearly \$2 Million Awarded For Used Lamp Recycling

*The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) awarded 10 cooperative agreements to promote the safe recycling of used mercury-containing lamps. Used lamps containing mercury usually are the bulb or tube portion of electrical lighting devices, such as fluorescent and high intensity discharge (HID) lamps. EPA classifies mercury-containing lamps as universal waste to streamline the collection, transportation, and storage of used lamps, and to ensure their safe recycling and waste management. The outreach conducted under the recipients' programs aims to increase awareness of the proper management methods for mercury-containing lamps, and to increase their recycling.*

### Grant Recipients

#### **Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers**

*Contact:* Paul Abernathy • (707) 942-2197 • [www.almr.org](http://www.almr.org) and [www.lamprecycle.org](http://www.lamprecycle.org)

The Association of Lighting and Mercury Recyclers (ALMR) is a nonprofit organization representing members of the mercury recycling industry, and serving as an educational and informational resource to government, business, and the public. ALMR will develop and implement a highly visible recycling program that will promote lamp recycling by commercial and industrial users of mercury-containing lamps, and increase awareness of proper disposal methods of used lamps. ALMR is working with the National Electrical Manufacturers Association and the Solid Waste Association of North America to produce educational materials targeted at influential decision-makers in solid waste management.

#### **California Department of Toxic Substances Control**

*Contact:* Karl Palmer • 916-445-2625 • [www.dtsc.ca.gov](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov)

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is a department within the California Environmental Protection Agency. The Department's mission is to restore, protect, and enhance the environment, and to ensure public health, environmental quality and economic vitality, by regulating hazardous waste, conducting and overseeing cleanups, and developing and promoting pollution prevention. DTSC will develop and implement a mercury lamp recycling outreach program in California to increase awareness of the requirements for managing used lamps. It also will provide businesses with information on available used lamp recycling services in the State of California. The ultimate goal is to attain a lamp recycling rate of 40 percent by 2005 and 80 percent by 2009.

#### **Center for Ecological Technology**

*Contact:* Ruth Dinerman • (413) 445-4556 • [www.cetonline.org](http://www.cetonline.org)

The Center for Ecological Technology (CET) is a nonprofit organization that works to demonstrate and promote practical, affordable solutions to environmental challenges. CET

will: reduce the presence of mercury in the waste stream; educate businesses about the impacts of mercury; increase recycling rates for lamps; and create a model for other groups across Massachusetts and the nation. CET also will engage commercial, industrial, state, and municipal users in mercury lamp recycling, and implement national environmental objectives.

### **Hawaii Department of Health**

*Contact:* Grace Simmons • (808) 586-4226 • [www.state.hi.us/health/eh/shwb](http://www.state.hi.us/health/eh/shwb)

The Department of Health (DOH) protects the state's environment through regulation of goods, services, and facilities used by the general public. DOH will: develop and implement a used lamp recycling outreach program specifically designed for Hawaii. The program will promote lamp recycling by commercial and industrial users of mercury-containing lamps. It also will increase awareness of proper disposal methods in compliance with federal and state universal waste rules.

### **Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association**

*Contact:* Terri Goldberg • (617) 367-8558 ext. 302 • [www.newmoa.org](http://www.newmoa.org)

The Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA) is a nonprofit, interstate association that has a membership composed of the hazardous waste, solid waste, waste site cleanup and pollution prevention program directors for the environmental agencies in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. NEWMOA's program will: increase the recycling of mercury-containing lamps in the Northeast Region; identify effective outreach approaches to promote recycling of mercury-containing lamps; and encourage the implementation of lamp recycling outreach models developed through this cooperative agreement to states in other parts of the United States.

### **Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center**

*Contact:* Chris Wiley • (206) 352-2050 • [www.pprc.org](http://www.pprc.org)

The Pacific Northwest Pollution Prevention Resource Center (PPRC) is a nonprofit organization that provides information to the public about pollution prevention. PPRC works collaboratively with business, government, and others to promote environmental protection through pollution prevention. PPRC will work to increase the recycling rate of mercury-containing lamps in the Northwest Region by targeting industry sectors and businesses that use large quantities of fluorescent lamps. In addition, the project will increase the awareness of mercury lamp recycling and provide access to necessary resources by disseminating information to specific high-volume users.

### **St. Regis Mohawk Tribe**

*Contact:* Laura Weber • (518) 358-5937 • [www.srmtenv.org](http://www.srmtenv.org)

The Mohawk Territory is an international community located in northern New York on the Canadian border in Akwesasne. The Tribe's Environment Division works to prevent disease and injury, while promoting lifestyles that respect, protect, and enhance the environment. The Tribe will develop a mercury lamp recycling outreach program to motivate behavioral change among businesses on the St. Regis Mohawk Reservation. The project will ultimately serve as a model for other tribal communities.

### **Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation**

*Contact:* Louis Bordenave • (615) 532-0450 • [www.state.tn.us/environment/dca](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/dca)

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) is responsible for ensuring a clean and safe environment in the state. Its Division of Community Assistance (DCA) provides technical and financial assistance to various communities of the state. Communities may be a county, city, utility district, business, industry, school, association, or general public. DCA will work to decrease the number of mercury-containing lamps that are disposed of, particularly focusing on the indoor tanning industry in Tennessee.

### **University of South Carolina**

*Contact:* James Cumberland • (803) 777-0451 • [www.iopa.sc.edu/ers/default.asp](http://www.iopa.sc.edu/ers/default.asp)

The University of South Carolina (USC) Environmental Research and Service (ERS) unit provides research, assistance, and leadership on environmental policy issues, and assists the private and public sectors with translating objective research into action. USC will: implement outreach aimed at small businesses to increase the awareness of the potential environmental and public hazards posed by improperly disposing of mercury lamps; provide information about existing mercury lamp recycling programs; and develop a collection infrastructure/network to facilitate small business participation in a used lamp recycling program.

### **Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation**

*Contact:* Gary Gulka • (802) 241-3626 • [www.mercvt.org](http://www.mercvt.org)

The Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VDEC) works to preserve, enhance, restore, and conserve the state's natural resources, and protect human health for the benefit of this and future generations. VDEC will conduct outreach to increase the level of awareness of properly disposing of linear and compact fluorescents and other mercury-containing lamps. In addition, this project aims to help the state double its mercury lamp recycling rate within two years.

### **For More Information**

For more information on used lamp recycling and universal waste, go to <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/id/univwast/lamp.htm>. You may also call the RCRA Call Center at 800-424-9346 toll-free or 703-412-9810 in the Washington, DC metro area.