

HARTFORD ENERGY COMMISSION (HEC)

The Hartford Energy Commission (HEC), established by the Selectboard in 2007, exists to help Hartford's residents, businesses, and government:

- **promote energy conservation**
- **improve efficiency of energy use**
- **increase the use of renewable energy sources**

In a survey several years ago, town residents chose home energy conservation as the most important priority from those listed. Our newsletter features recent HEC activities and information about energy efficient home lighting.

The Hartford Energy Commission is permitted seven members. We currently have five. We invite all Hartford residents to think about joining this important group.

Current members are:

Alan Johnson, Chair; Martha McDaniel, Vice Chair; Lynn Bohi, Clerk; Mike Heeremans; and Meredith Angwin.

CONTACT us by email at alan@datdec.com or mcdaniel_martha@yahoo.com or by phone, Lori Hirshfield, 802-295-3075.

SUBSCRIBE to our email list by sending your request to hec-request@datdec.com, with "subscribe" written in the subject line.



HEC ACTIVITIES

Energy saving upgrades to Town buildings

Efficiency Vermont (EV) evaluated many Town buildings for possible energy savings. HEC followed up on these projects:

- Vending misers added to all vending machines in Town buildings: These devices are motion sensitive and reduce vending machines' energy use by half.
- Motion sensors to turn off unused lights: We are surveying possible locations for motion sensors and evaluating electrical changes that may be needed for this upgrade.
- Light retrofit at the Fire Department: The overhead lights in the garage bays were old and inefficient. An EV rebate program paid \$40.00 of the \$55.00 cost for the new energy efficient lights. The Fire Department was happy to agree with this deal and have better lighting in their garage bays.

West Hartford Library work has continued:

HEC helped tighten the doors and replaced the floor drain in the basement. The library board added an attachment similar to storm windows on the windows near the front door. The library continues to save energy, and dollars! A new fireplace insert is coming in mid February.

	2006	2009
gallons of propane	2,713	1,322
btus per square foot	323,594	157,747
btu per heating degree day	23,392	15,785

EPA* Energy Star 10% Challenge:

The Town has met and exceeded its 10% EPA Challenge! By removing some streetlights, the Town saves approximately \$1,500/month (\$18,000 annually).

*Environmental Protection Agency

Learn more about the EPA* Energy Star 10% Challenge:

<http://bit.ly/f0hfer>

LIGHTS OUT!

TRADITIONAL LIGHT BULBS ARE PHASING OUT

Beginning in 2012, currently available incandescent light bulbs will be phased out. The federal government enacted the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, which requires all general-purpose light bulbs be 30% more energy efficient than current incandescent bulbs by 2012 to 2014. The efficiency standards will start with 100-watt bulbs in January 2012 and end with 40-watt bulbs in January 2014.

SEE THE NEXT PAGE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LIGHT BULB OPTIONS THAT WILL SAVE YOU MONEY.

THAT'S GOOD FOR YOU AND FOR THE PLANET!

LIGHTING EFFICIENCY AT HOME

WHICH OF THESE LIGHTBULBS ARE COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTS (CFLs)?



ANSWER: ALL OF THEM!

New CFLs fit all home light fixtures, don't flicker, don't buzz, start instantly, get brighter as they warm up, save electricity, and save money.

When Choosing CFLs look for More lumens (lm), Less Watts (W)

Lumens are the standard for the perceived power of light, which is what we want from a bulb. Most CFLs list three numbers on the package: lumens, actual watts used, and the wattage of an incandescent bulb with about the same lumens. To keep things simple, just look for a bulb close to the lumens or incandescent-equivalent-watts you want with the lowest actual watts used.

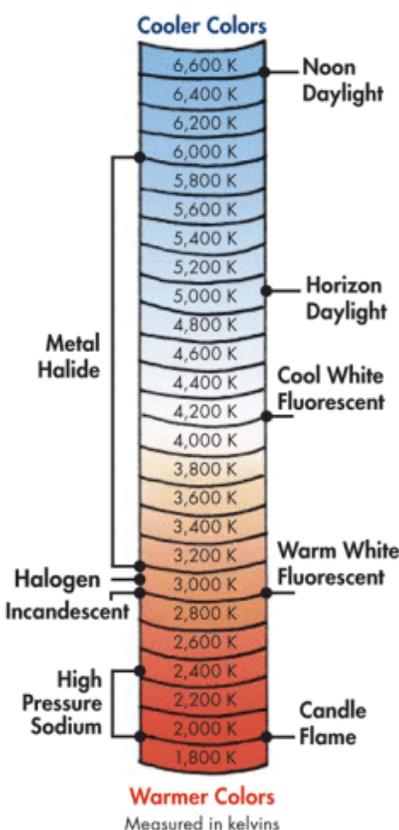
Are compact fluorescent bulbs safe? Don't they contain mercury?

Yes, they do contain a small amount of mercury and for this reason should be recycled and not sent to a landfill. There are many locations that take CFLs for recycling, including Foggs Hardware and Home Depot.

What if a CFL breaks? The amount of mercury is small and it dissipates quickly because it is in vapor form. There is minimal risk to most adults, but all mercury should be handled with care.

Visit www.newbulbintown.com/about/cfl_break.aspx.

- Ventilate the room by using fans and windows.
- Do not handle the fragments with your bare hands or a vacuum cleaner.
- The EPA recommends picking up all the bulb fragments with paper towels (use disposable gloves if you have them).
- Wipe the affected area clean, then place the fragments, towels and gloves in a sealed plastic bag and take it to your local Household Hazardous Waste Collection Site.



Warm White, Cool White, Daylight, Which bulb should I purchase?

- **Warm White:** (2700K – 3000K) yellowish light, suitable for lounges, hallways and bedrooms – areas where people relax.
- **Cool White:** (4000K) a bluer light, ideal for work areas such as kitchens, laundries, workshops and offices (also great for reading).
- **Daylight:** (6000K and above) an even bluer light, good for handiwork where high quality color rendition is required.

Color temperature can affect the way things look in your house. Most people prefer around 2700K - 3000K for a warm, cozy, and sheltered experience.

Fortunately, CFLs cover all ranges of lighting color temperature needs.

<http://www.newbulbintown.com/about/> is an excellent website for CFL information and interactive comparisons of the different types available.



HURRY, SALE ENDS MARCH 31, 2011

To find a vendor visit: <http://www.newbulbintown.com/locator/>

What about LEDs?

LEDs (light emitting diodes) tend to be expensive, but are long-lasting and produce light very efficiently. Energy Star has developed standards for LEDs, and is in the process of rating specific models.

Stay Tuned; We Look Forward to a Brighter Future