

COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

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Central Landfill Now Accepts Fluorescent Bulbs and Tubes Daily

(Woodland, CA) – To increase recycling opportunities for Yolo County residents, the Yolo County Central Landfill is now accepting fluorescent bulbs and tubes on a daily basis during normal business hours.

Since February 2006, fluorescent tubes and bulbs have been banned from disposal in the trash and landfill. Fluorescent bulbs contain mercury, which can pose environmental and health hazards if disposed of improperly. These items are considered federally-designated "universal waste" which includes batteries, electronic waste and other items which contain mercury. United States Environmental Protection Agency regulations govern the collection and management of these widely generated wastes, thus facilitating environmentally sound collection and proper recycling or treatment.

Until recently, the Yolo County Central Landfill only accepted fluorescents during the monthly household hazardous waste drop off events. As of July 1, 2009, the landfill is now accepting fluorescents on a daily basis. A nominal convenience fee of \$2.00 will be assessed, regardless of whether a resident brings in one bulb or several.

"We believe that the daily acceptance of fluorescent bulbs and tubes will likely decrease the amount of illegally disposed bulbs and tubes," said Yolo County Planning & Public Works Director John Bencomo. "It is important to us to provide this convenience in hopes it will encourage more people to properly dispose of these materials correctly."

"Our staff in the Planning & Public Works, Division of Integrated Waste Management continually strive to not only develop new programs which positively benefit the environment, but also serve our residents by creating options to sustainably dispose of hazardous materials," said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Mike McGowan

Household hazardous waste events are sponsored by the Yolo County Department of Planning & Public Works, Division of Integrated Waste Management. The next HHW drop-off days are scheduled for August 7 and 8. For more information about what is accepted daily at the Yolo County Central Landfill, or during household hazardous waste events, call (530) 666-8856 or visit: www.yolocounty.org.