



CONTROLLING YOUR LIGHTING COSTS



Lighting accounts for about 20 percent of the average home's electric bill. Much of that expense is due to using inefficient lightbulbs and poor lighting habits.

Fortunately, you can take simple steps to control your lighting costs and save money on your electricity bills.

The following tips could save you as much as \$150 a year on electricity costs:



Replace incandescent lightbulbs with energy efficient compact fluorescent lightbulbs (CFLs) on lighting you use most in your home. CFLs use 75 percent less energy than incandescent lightbulbs.



Open the shades and let the sun provide free lighting instead of automatically turning lights on during the day.



Adopt a family rule to turn off lights when not in use.

COMPACT FLUORESCENT LIGHTBULBS (CFLS)

Did you know:

- CFLs use only a fraction of the amount of electricity used by comparable incandescent lightbulbs (see table below).
- By switching to a CFL, electricity savings in the first year will more than pay for the cost of the CFL (for lights you use the most).
- CFLs last up to 10 times longer than incandescent lightbulbs.
- CFLs are available in many sizes to fit most light fixtures, including 3-way and dimmable lamps.
- CFLs come in a variety of lighting types: a warm soft light similar to standard incandescent bulbs, a cool bright light good for work spaces, or a natural light that is ideal for reading.
- CFLs emit less heat than incandescent lightbulbs and are cooler to the touch.

Annual Savings per CFL			
	60W	75W	100W
Regular lightbulb – watts	60w	75w	100w
Comparable CFL – watts	15w	20w	30w
Watt Savings	45w	55w	70w
Average hours used each day	x 4	x 4	x 4
Days in a year	x 365	x 365	x 365
Watt savings in a year	65,700	80,300	102,200
Kilowatt hour savings in a year (watts/1,000)	66	80	102
Average cost per kilowatt hour in NYS	x 19¢	x 19¢	x 19¢
Average electricity savings per year	\$13	\$15	\$19
Average life of a CFL – year	x 7	x 7	x 7
Total average savings of switching to a CFL	\$91	\$105	\$133

CFLs contain a very small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing. Contact your local municipal solid waste office to find out about the recycling options for CFLs available in your community and how to dispose of broken bulbs.



For more information call **1-888-Ask-PSC1**
or visit **www.AskPSC.com**