



GREENING OF UAB

News By Facilities Energy Management Department

www.fab.uab.edu/energy

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Help UAB Conserve Energy & Protect the Environment

In an effort to help conserve energy and improve our environment, the UAB Energy Management Department has begun an educational campaign for the UAB community regarding the many benefits of everyone working together in this endeavor. One way is by simply phasing out incandescent light bulbs.

Although most of the buildings at UAB have the traditional four foot fluorescent light fixtures, there are still many incandescent light bulbs still being used, that could be replaced with a compact fluorescent bulb.

Even though these bulbs do cost more than standard bulbs, **replacing just one bulb will save more than \$30 in the life of the bulb, two-thirds less energy will be used and the bulbs last 10 times longer than the standard bulbs.** Cooling cost will also drop due to the compact fluorescent bulbs generating 70 percent less heat. **Each bulb replaced eliminates the need to burn 110 pounds of coal to generate electricity and prevents 450 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions,** ensuring a brighter future for everyone.

If you are interested in doing your part for conservation, but don't know where to begin, start by changing the standard light bulbs at UAB and at home to compact fluorescent bulbs. **According to the Environmental Protection Agency, if every household in the United States replaced just one standard light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb, it will prevent 90 billion pounds of greenhouse gas emissions from power plants, which equals to taking about 7.5 million cars off of the highways.** And by doing this, we will save enough energy to light more than 2.5 million homes in a year. The less energy we use, the less coal the power plants will have to use resulting in less emissions and harm to the environment.

California is considering legislation that would phase out inefficient light bulbs. Many countries are also considering plans. Australia's plan to phase out the inefficient standard light bulb by 2010 is likely to be adopted by the European and Latin American trading blocs by the end of this year. The initiative received the enthusiastic backing of several key government representatives at a meeting of world environment ministers in Riksgården, Sweden, last week.

In an interview with *The Sunday Age* from Riksgården, the federal parliamentary secretary for foreign affairs, Greg Hunt, said the meeting could spell the end of the standard light bulb around the world. He also said, "The representatives from 15 Latin-American countries have now committed to signing an agreement to phase out incandescent light bulbs. This will save around 25 million tons of greenhouse gas a year, which is a really substantial contribution to easing the impact of climate change.



Help UAB conserve energy and protect the environment by replacing an incandescent light bulb with a compact fluorescent light bulb.

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The representative of the European Union who attended the meeting has also made a formal commitment to take this proposal back to the European Parliament with the plan to have it ratified by the end of the year. That has the potential to save many more millions of tons of greenhouse gases."

Here in the United States, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy have started a joint program called Energy Star. The Energy Star label helps consumers when shopping for appliances, doors, windows and other products because they are tested to meet strict guidelines to be energy efficient and environmentally friendly. They have started the "Change a Light, Change the World" campaign to help the public become familiar with the compact fluorescent bulbs and the many benefits they bring to the environment.



For any assistance in getting these bulbs replaced, just contact Maintenance at 4-5353 on the Campus or 4-6181 in the Hospital. There are certain applications where compact fluorescents are not applicable such as appliances and dimmable spot lights, but Maintenance or Energy Management can assist in determining those exceptions. If you need further assistance, contact Energy Management at 5-7140 or www.fab.uab.edu/energy.

UAB CONSERVES ENERGY
THINK "GREEN" - SAVE "GOLD" \$\$



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