

Skokie Ace Hardware is Your Local Source for Recycling Hazardous Household Items

Since 1895, Skokie Ace Hardware has been helping families build and maintain their most important possession, their home. While we still do this every day, Skokie Ace Hardware can now help families protect the environment. Listed below are the recycling programs offered at the store. These programs, not all of which are free, give each of us a chance to recycle hazardous household items and keep toxins out of our landfills.

Latex Paint

Did you know that the average American family has 3-5 gallons of old latex paint ready for disposal? The problem is there was no easy and environmentally safe way to get rid of all those half full paint cans gathering dust in your basement or garage.

Now we have the answer! Skokie Ace Hardware has teamed up with Earth Paints Collection Systems to provide you with a safe and inexpensive way to get rid of all your unused latex paint. Just bring us your old cans of latex paint, pay a small fee and then rest assured that the paint will be professionally recycled and not end up polluting our landfills.

Drop-off fees are as follows:

- \$1.50 for each quart container
- \$2.50 for each gallon container
- \$8.00 for each 5-gallon bucket

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs

Compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs have been around for many years and every day they become more popular with consumers. The biggest drawback with CFL bulbs is that each one contains a small amount of mercury. While some people may be hesitant to use a product that contains mercury in their house, it is important to understand that using a CFL bulb results in about 35% lower total mercury emissions when compared to the amount of energy required to power an incandescent light bulb for a similar amount of time. Burned out CFLs, however, should never be thrown into the garbage where they will break and release the mercury into our landfills and the atmosphere. The question now becomes: What do we do with the bulbs once they don't work anymore?

Again, we have the answer! In the fall of 2007, Skokie Ace hardware, along with ComEd and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, launched a CFL recycling program. When a CFL stops working, customers can bring the UNBROKEN bulb to Skokie Ace Hardware where it will be recycled for FREE!

Fluorescent Light Tubes

Just like CFL bulbs, fluorescent light tubes contain a small amount of mercury and should never be thrown in the garbage. Skokie Ace Hardware, with the help of Mercury Technologies of Minnesota can recycle all of your fluorescent light tubes. Again, customers can bring the UNBROKEN tubes to Skokie Ace Hardware where they can be recycled for a small fee of 80 cents per bulb. While this is a small price to pay in order to protect our environment, Skokie Ace Hardware will waive the recycling fee if the customer purchases a replacement bulb at the store.

Rechargeable Batteries

At no charge, customers can recycle rechargeable batteries at Skokie Ace Hardware. They accept Nickel Cadmium, Nickel Metal Hydride, Lithium Ion and small (less than 2lbs) Sealed Lead batteries. These are the kinds of batteries found in cellular and cordless phones, cordless power tools, laptop computers, PDAs, two-way radios, camcorders and remote control toys.

Used Cell Phones

Used cell phones, either with or without their batteries can also be recycled at Skokie Ace Hardware at no charge.