LightRecycle Washington 2015 Results

SWANA Material Division 3On the Road to Zero Waste

Peter Thermos, Program Manager February 26, 2016





Program Overview



- Developed according to the mercury-containing lights proper disposal law (Chapter 70.275 RCW).
- Program launched on January 1, 2015.
- PCA Product Stewardship is the Product Stewardship Organization.
- The Department of Ecology provides oversight and enforcement of the law.
- Recycling program for individuals and businesses in WA who purchase lights at retail.
- Recycle up to 10 mercury-containing lights per person per day at no charge.
- Program products include:
 - Fluorescent Tubes
 - Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs)
 - Other lights that contain mercury



Communications



- Digital ad impressions: Approx. 4 million
- Radio Campaigns on 2 King County Stations (KIRO & KOMO)
- Print Campaigns in 3 major, regional newspapers, ½ page ads
- Social Media: Facebook and Twitter
- Spanish language advertising (3 Print and 2 radio)
- Information Cards: Approx. 35K distributed
- Posters and Vinyl Banners: Provided to approx. 220 locations
- Promo sunglasses and magnets at approx. 20 fairs and festivals



Communications (digital)







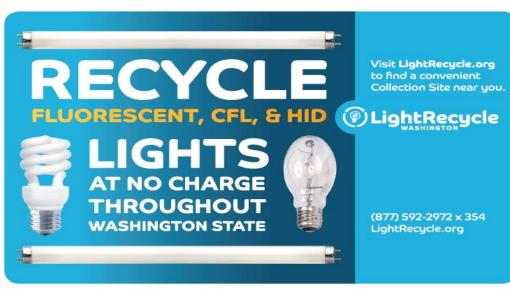






Communications (info card)

LRW Info Card (front)













Communications



Collection Site Vinyl Banner



THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW





Collection Network



Collection Site Locations – Required in every county and city of 10K or more people.

- Government Facilities MRW/HHW and Transfer Stations
- Retail Hardware, Lighting, Pharmacy, other

Total Sites (January 1, 2015)

- 315 Collection Sites Registered
 - 220 all program products
 - 68 CFL-only
 - 27 Unadvertised

Materials Collected (FY 2015)

- 989,034 mercury-containing lights
 - 2015 collection target: 949,311
 - Target surpassed by 4.2%



Program Funding



Environmental Handling Charge (EHC)

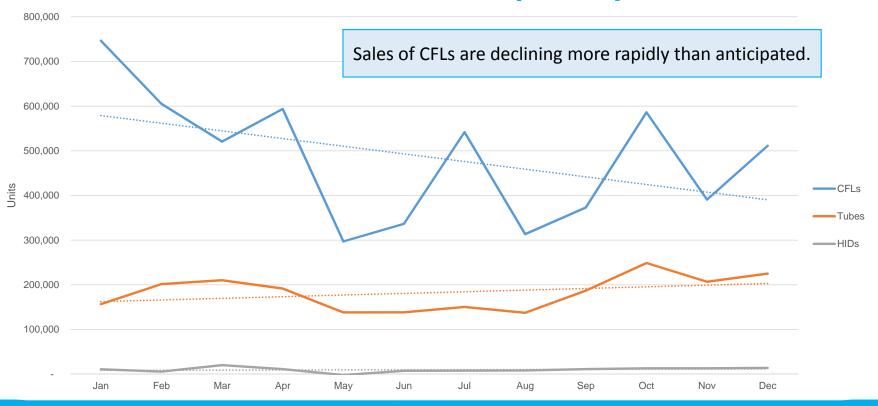
- \$0.25 / light, for all accepted light types.
- Added to the purchase price of mercury-containing lights sold at retail.

Reporting and Remitting the EHC

- Participants (producers, distributors and retailers) must register with the program and report sales using our online system at: EHCreporting.lightrecycle.org
- Remitting retailers entitled to a hold-back of \$0.02 / light (up to \$200 / reporting period).
- Revenue for 2015 was in line with revenue projection.



WA Sales Trends (2015)







Challenges and Planning

- CFL sales declining more rapidly than expected
- Collectors are voluntary and no collection partners have been identified in some areas.
- Consumer Behavior Study showed that roughly 50% of people don't know that fluorescent lights and CFLs contain mercury.

2016 Priorities

- Seek out opportunities to improve the collection network.
- Increase visits to collection sites to gather feedback and ensure marketing materials are being used.
- Expand outreach at fairs and festivals.
- Increase awareness through communication activities.



Thank you!

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