

## What the Package Can Tell You...

### How much power does the bulb use?

- ▶ Power usage is measured in watts.
- ▶ The greater the wattage, the more power used.

### How bright is the light?

Brightness is measured in lumens.

- ▶ The larger the number, the more lumens, the brighter the light.

### How long does the bulb last?

- ▶ Average lifespan is measured in hours.

*All of these things can tell you how much the lighting really costs!*

### Choose the bulb that is right for you!

- ▶ People with limited sight abilities need lighting that can help prevent falls and improve daily activities.
- ▶ Any bulb can enhance safety and security when used the right way.



**WANT MORE INFORMATION?  
PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL EXTENSION OFFICE:**



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# safe & sustainable lighting

CHOOSING LIGHTING IS  
AN IMPORTANT DECISION.



**you**  
can make  
**Safe & Sustainable**  
**lighting choices!**



## Incandescent Lightbulbs

## Compact Fluorescent Lightbulbs (CFLs)

## Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs)

### How Do They Work?

When electric currents move through a tungsten wire, the tungsten wire heats up and produces light.

### How Do They Work?

When electricity passes through a gas-filled glass tube, a special coating inside the tube produces light.

### How Do They Work?

Electricity passes through semiconductors to make light.  
New white-light LEDs work in your home just like incandescent bulbs and CFLs.

### Making a Sustainable Choice

Only about 8% of the energy they use creates visible light.  
The rest of the energy is wasted as heat!

### Making a Sustainable Choice

About 21% of the energy they use creates visible light.  
Most of our energy comes from coal-fired power plants that put mercury into the environment.  
Even though CFLs contain a tiny bit of mercury, they reduce the overall amount of mercury that goes into the environment by using less energy.

### Making a Sustainable Choice

About 20-30% of the energy they use creates visible light.  
LED technology is changing rapidly.  
Check the stores often for new products as they hit the shelves!

When Thinking of Lighting Costs,  
**Consider...**

- ▶ Initial Cost: How much will the bulb cost when you first buy it?
- ▶ Lifespan: How often will you have to replace the bulb?
- ▶ Energy Use: How much energy does the bulb use?

## Light Source Comparison

	Incandescents	CFLs	LEDs
Initial Cost	Low	Medium	High
Lifespan	About 1,000 hours	About 10,000 hours	About 20,000 hours!
Energy Use	High	Low	Very Low

- ▶ To make certain that you are purchasing a quality product, choose bulbs with the Energy Star® logo.
- ▶ Be sure to purchase bulbs from a reputable manufacturer.
- ▶ For best results, choose white-light LEDs.