



Department of Utilities
Office of the Director

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News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Pick-up Service Helps Residents Properly Dispose of Batteries and Fluorescent Light Bulbs

*City of Sacramento implements residential door-to-door pick-up of batteries, compact
fluorescent light bulbs and fluorescent light tubes*

Starting January 22, 2008, the City of Sacramento Department of Utilities Solid Waste Services will begin to collect batteries, compact fluorescent light bulbs, and fluorescent light tubes from residential customers by appointment. The new service will help residents to properly dispose of these items, which have been banned from disposal in garbage containers since 2006.

To participate in the program, residents must call to schedule an appointment for their collection day. Typically, appointments will be scheduled for the resident's next garbage collection day. To prepare for their appointment, residents should collect their used batteries in a closeable freezer bag and wrap fluorescent light tubes and place compact fluorescent bulbs in a container to protect them from shattering. On their appointed collection day, residents should place their items for collection near their garage or near their front door. Items should not be placed by the curb for collection. Residents are encouraged to collect enough batteries to fill their closeable freezer bag before scheduling an appointment.

"Many of our customers are unaware that disposing of these items in their garbage is illegal and are unaware of other disposal options, such as taking them to a household hazardous waste center," said Edison Hicks, Integrated Waste General Manager for the Department of Utilities. "We hope this new option will assist residents in disposing of their batteries and fluorescent lights properly and help to keep these potentially hazardous materials from landfills."

To schedule an appointment, or for more information, residents may call the City of Sacramento Department of Utilities at 916-808-5454. For additional information about proper disposal of hazardous materials, recycling, or the City's solid waste services, please visit www.cityofsacramento.org/utilities.

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DEPARTMENT
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