

Dear Putney area residents,

The newly formed Putney Energy Committee (PEC) is sponsoring a CFL (Compact Fluorescent Light) Bulb Drive to help conserve our country's energy resources and help reduce the risks of global climate change. We are encouraging all area residents to change at least one light bulb to a CFL that has earned the government's ENERGY STAR rating for energy efficiency. These bulbs come in several sizes, wattages, and color temperatures and are available (at cost to Putney residents and business) in Putney by calling 802 387 4141, stopping by 120 Main St. or filling in an order form, available on line at:

http://www.putney.net/energy/CFL_flyer.pdf

With approval and support of the Putney Selectboard and Efficiency Vermont, PEC's goal is to distribute 1000 bulbs and to encourage 1000 Putney residents to take the online ENERGY STAR Change a Light Pledge by Oct 14th. We are well on our way past 50% of our goal but we need your help. PEC is accepting prepaid orders for bulbs as well as donations to help cover the cost of printed materials and the cost of light bulbs supplied for free to non-profit organizations and municipal buildings.

PEC is participating in the National ENERGY STAR Change a Light, Change the World Campaign; a partnership between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Energy and organizations across the country to encourage individuals and organizations to actively help save energy at home and at work, starting by switching to energy-efficient lighting.

October 4th is the second annual ENERGY STAR Change a Light Day. On this day, hundreds of organizations like ours will announce their pledged progress toward their goals. Please join us in taking the pledge. It's a simple commitment that will go a long way to assure that the energy resources we rely on and the environment we live in are preserved for generations to come.

Go to <http://www.putney.net/energy/> click on the link to Take the Energy Star challenge!

To give you a sense of how the energy and environmental savings can add up, individuals who pledged to change a light in 2005 alone have the potential to save more than \$2 million in energy costs and prevent more than 33 million pounds of greenhouse gas emissions!

Because lighting accounts for nearly 20 percent of the average home's electric bill and more for some business, changing to more efficient options reduces the amount of fossil (or nuclear) fuels our local power plant must consume to generate electricity, and helps reduce the cost of electric bills. Moreover, while CFLs use less than 1/4 of the energy of standard incandescent bulbs, they last as much as 10 times longer. This translates into continued savings.

For example, if you replace one 60-watt incandescent with one 15-watt fluorescent and use it six hours a day all year, you could see an energy savings of more than \$10.00 (electricity costs) in a year. It would pay for itself in less than 3 months. By replacing one 60-watt incandescent with a 15-watt compact fluorescent and using it just an hour a day, the CFL would pay for itself in about 6 months. Over its lifetime, one bulb will save 450 kilowatt hours of electricity, will save you \$49.50 in electricity cost, and would reduce CO2 emissions by 674 pounds (if we use coal, or oil to produce electricity).

Did you know that for every kilowatt saved, you prevent a pound and half of greenhouse gas emissions from entering the atmosphere? The effect of 1000 bulbs is the prevention of 337.5 Tons of CO2 emissions. If PEC changes 1000 conventional light bulbs in Putney to CFLs, at the electric cost of 11 cents per kilowatt hour, the savings will be more than \$49,500.00 worth of electricity over the life of the bulbs.

I personally want encourage all area residents to get involved – these energy saving bulbs are available at my favorite home town hardware store; Brown and Roberts, along with True Value and other area hardware stores. You can save up to \$1.50 per bulb using the Efficiency of Vermont and NH rebate forms. For more information about the volunteer powered Putney Energy Committee, please visit our

Web site at: <http://www.putney.net/energy> *Do you want to change the world? – Change a bulb!*

Thank you from - Daniel Hoviss – Chair of the Putney Energy Committee.