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GENERAL STATEMENTS	<p>Fluorescent light bulbs contain a very small amount of mercury sealed within the glass tubing.</p> <p>The following steps can be performed by the general</p>	<p>The most important thing to remember is to never use a vacuum. A standard vacuum will spread mercury containing dust throughout the area as well as potentially contaminating the vacuum.</p>	<p>Do not break or crush bulbs because mercury may be released.</p>	<p>Proper use and handling of CFLs in the home should not result in any exposure to mercury</p>	<p>Take immediate precautions. Do not touch the mercury</p>		<p>It is not necessary to hire a professional to clean up the bulb. By following the directions below, you can safely clean up a broken CFL bulb.</p>
VENTILATION INFORMATION	<p>Open a window</p>	<p>Ventilate the area by opening windows</p>	<p>Keep the area well ventilated</p>	<p>Open a window</p>	<p>Open windows to ventilate the area. To reduce evaporation, lower the room temperature</p>	<p>Turn off all fans, heating ventilation and air conditioning systems, or anything that could spread mercury vapors or powder to other areas. Open all accessible windows, provided that there is not a strong breeze, to ventilate the area.</p>	<p>Increasing the room temperature while ventilating the air to the outdoors will make this process go faster. <i>(from break on carpet/furniture)</i></p>
CLEARING IMPACTED AREA	<p>leave the room for 15 minutes or more</p>	<p>Keep people and pets away from the breakage area so that the mercury in the powder inside the bulb is not accidentally tracked into other areas</p>	<p>Keep all people and pets away from the breakage area to prevent mercury powder from being tracked into other areas</p>	<p>leave the room for at least 15 minutes</p>	<p>Keep people and pets out of the area</p>	<p>Isolate the area around all broken material so that the mercury powder is not tracked, or spread, to other areas. Cease all other activities and keep the spill area contained and off limits until all broken material and contaminated surfaces have been cleaned</p>	<p>To prevent cuts from glass, protect the area from human or pet traffic for a couple of weeks until any mercury vapor is ventilated away <i>(from break on carpet/furniture)</i></p>
RECOMMENDED MATERIALS FOR CLEANING	<p>Use disposable rubber gloves, if available (i.e., do not use bare hands). Sticky tape to pick up small pieces and powder</p>	<p>Wear appropriate personal protective equipment, such as rubber gloves, safety glasses, old clothing or coveralls, and a dust mask (if you have one) to keep bulb dust and glass from being inhaled.</p>	<p>Assemble the necessary supplies (latex gloves, tweezers, adhesive tape, and a puncture-resistant container) before cleaning up</p>	<p>Wear disposable gloves and pick up the broken pieces</p>	<p>Remove all jewelry from your hands since mercury bonds with most metals and put on rubber gloves</p>	<p>Wear latex or nitrile gloves during cleanup of the mercury powder and breakage. Do not touch uncontaminated items with the gloves once the gloves have come into contact with the mercury powder or contaminated items</p>	<p>Do not use a metal dustpan because the mercury will bind to it.</p>

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CLEANING UP DUST/POWDER	Wipe the area clean with damp paper towels or disposable wet wipes and place them in the plastic bag.	Next, begin collecting the smaller pieces and dust. You can use a disposable broom and dustpan or two stiff pieces of paper to scoop up pieces. Put all material into the glass container. Pat the area with the sticky side of duct, packing or masking tape. Wipe the area with a damp cloth or paper towels to pick up fine particles.	It may be necessary to use the tweezers and adhesive tape to pick up any small pieces of glass and powdery residue	Take a damp cloth and wipe and clean the area; Use duct tape to pat the area to remove any other small pieces	Pick up any remaining mercury with duct or packing tape or an eyedropper and place in the container along with the pieces of the broken item, the cardboard and gloves. Close the container and seal it with tape.	Adhesive tape can be used to pick up any remaining small pieces of glass and powder residue. Mercury powder can be carefully swept up with a damp cloth or a small dustpan and brush.	A damp disposable rag or paper towel should be used to do a final wipe of the area
HOW TO GATHER BROKEN FRAGMENTS	Carefully scoop up the fragments and powder with stiff paper or cardboard and place them in a sealed plastic bag	Carefully remove the larger pieces and place them in a secure closed container, preferably a glass container with a metal screw top and gasket seal like a canning jar	Using the latex gloves, carefully pick up any broken glass and place it in container.		Push the beads of mercury together with a stiff piece of paper or cardboard. Lift the beads with the cardboard and place into a plastic container.	Pick up broken glass and place the pieces in a puncture resistant container. Use tweezers to safely pick up the broken glass.	<u>On a hard surface</u> , you should collect the pieces as you would any broken glass using a broom, two pieces of cardboard or stiff paper. Place the broken pieces in a reclosable plastic bag. Be careful not to cut yourself on any sharp edges.
VACUUM ON HARD SURFACE	Do not use a vacuum or broom to clean up the broken bulb on hard surfaces	Never use a vacuum. A standard vacuum will spread mercury containing dust throughout the area as well as potentially contaminating the vacuum.	DO NOT VACUUM.		Never vacuum or sweep up the spilled mercury. Vacuuming or sweeping up a mercury spill will spread the mercury throughout the house and contaminate your vacuum or broom		<u>Do not vacuum</u> the area because this will spread any mercury vapor temporarily present to other areas of the room.

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ADVICE FOR RUG OR CARPET	If vacuuming is needed after all visible materials are removed, vacuum the area where the bulb was broken, remove the vacuum bag (or empty and wipe the canister) and put the bag or vacuum debris in two sealed plastic bags in the outdoor trash or protected outdoor location for normal disposal	Never use a vacuum. A standard vacuum will spread mercury containing dust throughout the area as well as potentially contaminating the vacuum.			On carpet, cut out the contaminated section. Place it in a plastic bag. Place any pieces of the broken item in a plastic container along with your gloves. Close the container and seal it and the bag with tape		Carpet and other soft surface like upholstered furniture, carefully collect and bag the broken parts using the method described above. Dab with the sticky side of duct tape or packaging tape to pick up any powder residue and small pieces of glass. To prevent cuts from glass, protect the area from human or pet traffic for a couple of weeks until any mercury vapor is ventilated away and the carpeting can be vacuumed safely. Increasing the room temperature while ventilating the air to the outdoors will make this process go faster. Affected furniture can be placed in a garage for a few days or outside on a sunny day to drive off any remaining mercury vapors.
WHAT TO DO WITH BROKEN AND CONTAMINATED MATERIALS	Place all cleanup materials in a second sealed plastic bag. Place the first bag in a second sealed plastic bag and put it in the outdoor trash container or in another outdoor protected area for the next normal trash disposal.	Put all waste and materials used to clean up the bulb in the glass container and label it "Universal Waste - broken lamp". Take the container for recycling as universal waste. To determine where your town has made arrangements for	After clean-up is complete, place any other material that came in contact with the mercury powder into the container Contact your municipality, Solid Waste District, or this office for disposal options	Place the broken pieces, cloth, disposable gloves and duct tape in a sealed bag and dispose of in the household garbage (outside).	Individual broken lamps should be placed in a sealed container and disposed of in the trash	Place all broken glass, powder, tape, and other cleanup materials in a sturdy, sealed plastic or glass container. Dispose of any Contaminated clothes, footwear, fabric, etc., by placing them in a plastic bag for disposal and seal properly. Store the containers in a secure	Place the rag or paper towel in the bag with the broken bulb pieces and dispose of it in your household trash. CFLs should not be put in household trash if there is an opportunity to recycle them.

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WHAT TO DO WITH BROKEN AND CONTAMINATED MATEIRALS (con't)	Note: Some states prohibit such trash disposal and require that broken and unbroken lamps be taken to a local recycling center	recycling of this type of waste, call your town office or check out the Maine Department of Environmental Protection				place while awaiting disposal. Carefully remove the gloves by turning them inside out to take them off. This will trap any mercury powder remaining on the gloves	Check with your local recycling center or health department to find what your options are.
INFORMATION ABOUT HYGENE	Wash your hands after disposing of the bag.					Shower as soon as possible after the cleanup procedure	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION		The next time you replace a bulb, consider putting a drop cloth on the floor so that any accidental breakage can be easily cleaned up.		Handle the lamp carefully, installing and removing by the base, never the glass	Contain the spill. Spilled mercury can spread quickly. Move furniture and other objects away from the spill and prevent the mercury from flowing into drains, cracks or crevices. Any remaining mercury will continue to emit dangerous vapors so it is important to contain every drop.	Upon completing cleanup, contact the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services, Special Investigations Section at (603) 271-3899 to determine if you need to file a spill report	The risk of exposure to mercury from the occasional broken CFL bulb is very small. And, using CFLs reduces the amount mercury in the air by reducing the amount of electricity that power companies need to produce. A coal-fired powered plant releases up to four times the amount of mercury contained in a single CFL bulb in order to provide the amount of power needed to light one standard light bulb.

EPA: www.epa.gov/mercury/spills/index.htm#fluorescent
www.energystar.gov/ia/partners/promotions/change_light/downloads/Fact_Sheet_Mercury.pdf

*MA – advice is for all mercury spills including fluorescent lamps.