Facts about Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs

ENERGY STAR qualified CFLs:

- Use at least 2/3 less energy than standard incandescent bulbs to provide the same amount of light, and last up to 10 times longer.
- Save $30 or more in energy costs over each bulb's lifetime
- Generate 70 percent less heat, so they're safer to operate and can cut energy costs associated with home cooling.
- In addition to other quality requirements, must turn on instantly, produce no sound, and fall within a warm color range or be otherwise labeled as providing cooler color tones.
- Are available in different sizes and shapes to fit in almost any fixture, for indoors and outdoors.

Where to Use CFLs:

- To get the most energy savings, replace bulbs where lights are on the most, such as your family and living room, kitchen, dining room, and porch.
- Some CFLs have trouble operating in enclosed fixtures. Check the CFL's packaging for any restrictions on use.

How to Choose the Right Light:

- Matching the right CFL to the right kind of fixture helps ensure that it will perform properly and last a long time. Read the packaging to be sure that the type you choose works for the fixture you have in mind. For example:
    - If a light fixture is connected to a dimmer or 3-way switch, select CFLs that are labeled for this use
    - For recessed fixtures, it is better to use a 'reflector' CFL versus a standard-shaped bulb.
- Choose the color that works best for you. For example, while most CFLs are created with warm colors for your home, you could choose a cooler color for task lighting.
- To get a CFL with the right amount of light, choose one that offers the same lumen rating as the light you are replacing. The higher the lumen rating, the greater the light output. Use the table below to see how lumens can generally be compared.

A-shaped Incandescent Bulb (Watts)	Typical Lumens (Measure of Light Output)
40	> 450
60	> 800
75	> 1,100
100	> 1,600
150	> 2,600

Remember, saving energy prevents pollution. When you use less energy at home, you lessen greenhouse gas emissions in our atmosphere. Every CFL can prevent more than 450 pounds of emissions from a power plant over its lifetime. (http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=cfls.pr_cfls)