

# The Gainesville Zero Waste News

## Don't Toss Out Those Old Holiday Lights – Recycle Them!

As the festive season draws near, many of us eagerly unpack boxes of holiday decorations, including strings of twinkling lights that have adorned our homes for years. If you discover lights that are no longer working or sets that are impossibly tangled, don't toss them into your garbage – **drop them off for recycling instead!**

Residents may drop off their old sets of holiday lights for recycling at the City of Gainesville's Public Works offices located at **405 NW 39th Avenue** through the end of January. Light strings with incandescent, LED, and "icicle" lights, wires, and the attached bulbs are accepted for recycling. **No set of lights is too tangled for recycling.**



Residents may also recycle old holiday lights year-round at any one of the Alachua County Drop-Off sites. **For a complete list of drop-off locations, visit [gainesvillefl.gov/WasteWizard](https://gainesvillefl.gov/WasteWizard).**

Swapping out old incandescent lights can result in significant savings on your electricity bill. Opting for new LED lights is even better, as they consume 80-90% less energy than traditional incandescent bulbs. Additionally, LED lights have a lifespan of up to 100,000 hours, compared to just 3,000 hours for incandescent lights.

A friendly reminder: **Do NOT place holiday lights in your home recycle bins.**

###