

Miss. retailer offers to recycle Christmas lights

Nov. 26 -- A Jackson, Miss., online retailer is offering to recycle incandescent holiday lights at no charge until Dec. 20.

HolidayLEDs.com sells light-emitting diode Christmas lights, which use 80 to 99 percent less energy than standard lights, said Philip C. Curtis, the e-commerce site's co-owner. The company also will send the first 100 participants in the recycling program a free set of LED lights.

Curtis estimates Americans bought more than 15 million sets of Christmas lights last year. LED lights not only are more energy efficient, but are safer because they operate at only 1 degree Fahrenheit above ambient temperature, he said.

"Many people simply treat incandescent lights as disposable and this creates a lot of waste," Curtis said. "We want to encourage people to transition out of inefficient incandescent holiday lighting, but we also want to see people recycle their old lights."