

# GREEN LIGHTS

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*The Town of Glastonbury*

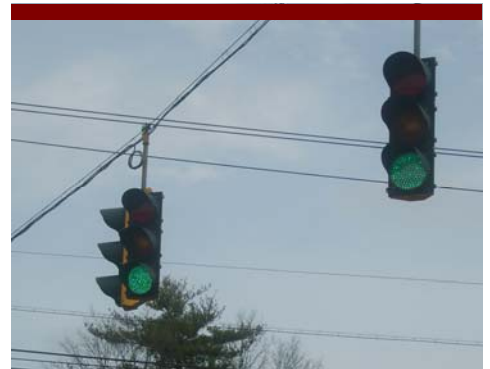


## INTRODUCTION

**B**y now, all residents know about the advantages of changing the light bulbs in their home from the incandescent light bulbs to the compact fluorescent bulbs. Similarly, the Town has made a great effort to reduce energy consumed through lighting, as well as in other areas, as is evident in the Green Initiatives section of the Town's web site. One area that may not readily come to mind would be the light bulbs in traffic and walk signals throughout Town.

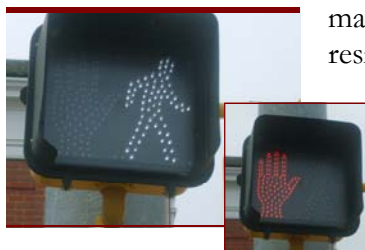
## LED TRAFFIC SIGNALS

In 2005, the Town's Physical Services Department began converting all traffic signals in Town to light emitting diodes (LEDs). According to the Town Engineer, Daniel Pennington, the LED lights are more energy efficient, brighter and last longer. In the past, when the incandescent light bulbs burned out, the red, yellow or green traffic signal stopped functioning. With the newer LED lights, the red, yellow and green traffic lights' area is made up of several small LED lights. So, when one bulb burns out, the light still functions, thus maintaining traffic safety at the intersection. Also, as with all LED lights, the lifetime of the bulb itself is longer, reducing maintenance costs.



## PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS USING LEDs

Pedestrian signals are important for keeping the residents of Glastonbury safe when crossing intersections. These signals are frequently installed at signalized intersections when an analysis shows that the vehicular signals cannot adequately accommodate the pedestrians using the intersection. To



make the signals as visible as possible for residents, the Town of Glastonbury has chosen to use the LED illuminated symbol of an upraised red hand and the LED illuminated symbol of a walking person. The fact that these signals are made from LED bulbs makes them cost effective for the Town.

# ABOUT LEDs

The new traffic lights and pedestrian crossing signals are made out of arrays of light emitting diodes. These tiny, purely electronic lights are extremely energy efficient and have a very long life. Each light is about the size of a pencil eraser. Like Glastonbury, most cities in the United States are replacing their incandescent traffic lights and pedestrians signs with LED units because they are brighter, last for years and save a lot of energy.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Here are links to related information that might be of interest:

- 🌀 [LED traffic light use](#)
- 🌀 [LEDPro](#)
- 🌀 [LED-based ITCP arrow board](#)
- 🌀 [How LEDs work](#)
- 🌀 [How light bulbs work](#)
- 🌀 [How halogen lights work](#)
- 🌀 [Amps, watts, volts and ohms](#)

## GLASTONBURY'S GREEN INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Glastonbury's Green Initiatives program operates under the direction of the Town Manager. The committee is chaired by the Purchasing Agent and the Superintendent of Sanitation. Committee members from across Town departments participate and contribute ideas and suggestions committed to a "greener" community.

The committee assembles information about products and services and makes the information available to specific departments that can evaluate them and develop applications in Town projects with the approval of the Town Manager.

These "Go-Green" bulletins contain information about the results of product evaluations and other accomplishments of Town departments. We hope this information can provide you insight to the Town's green initiatives and also lead others in the community to find ways to use environmentally preferable products. Please contact us if we can help you with further information or if you have additional suggestions. ■

