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*For Immediate Release*

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## **Village of Rantoul Offering CFL Discount Coupons to Residents**

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Coupons offering a discount on the purchase of energy-efficient compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) are now available from the Village of Rantoul.

The coupons, which provide \$1 off the purchase price of any General Electric *Energy Smart* or *Energy Star* CFL, are part of a comprehensive energy-efficiency program currently being implemented by the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency (IMEA) on behalf of its members. The coupons will be made available to municipal residents at the village's utility billing office located at 333 South Tanner Street in Rantoul. Each coupon can be used anywhere GE products are sold.

“We are committed to helping our customers take advantage of energy-efficiency initiatives which save energy and money and which benefit the environment as well,” said Greg Hazel, Director of Public Works for the Village of Rantoul. “These coupons provide a financial incentive to do just that, and are a simple, cost-effective way for residents to help control and reduce energy costs.”

From an energy efficiency standpoint, CFLs offer a number of advantages over traditional incandescent light bulbs. They last 10 times longer, use a fourth of the energy compared to an incandescent bulb and can save up to \$30 over the course of a bulb's lifetime. Another benefit is that CFLs produce the same amount of light as incandescent bulbs, but at a lower wattage.

“If every household in the U.S. replaced one light bulb with a CFL, we would save enough energy to light 3 million homes for a year,” said IMEA President & CEO Ronald D. Earl. “That is more than \$600 million in annual energy costs and a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to more than 800,000 cars.”

Founded in 1984, the IMEA is a not-for-profit unit of local government comprised of 32 member municipalities and one rural electric cooperative who own and operate their own electric distribution systems.

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