



CORE Launches SustainableEyecare.com

**Website Helps Eye Care Professionals and Patients
Responsibly Use, Recycle and Dispose of Contact Lenses and Eyewear**

WATERLOO, ONTARIO, April 21, 2025—Ahead of Earth Day, the Centre for Ocular Research & Education (CORE) at the University of Waterloo has launched SustainableEyecare.com. The first-of-its-kind website is designed to educate eye care professionals and patients about the environmental impact of contact lenses and eyewear, as well as about practical solutions for recycling and responsible disposal.

“Consumers are increasingly conscious about the amount of waste they generate, including the use of plastics associated with contact lenses, frames, and spectacle lenses. However, many don’t have complete information needed to make good choices. For instance, despite having the best of intentions when putting their contact lens packaging in the recycling bin, people are largely unaware that blister packs or contact lens foils may not be accepted by municipal recyclers,” said Dr. Lyndon Jones, director of [CORE](https://CORE.ca).

“Practitioners and staff have the opportunity to address this challenge and patients’ other environmental questions as part of routine care and follow-up. SustainableEyecare.com aims to help by providing targeted education and actionable guidance in a clear, compelling way.”

The site includes:

- Easy-to-understand information about the environmental challenges linked to contact lens, frames, and spectacle lens disposal.
- Clear instructions for how to properly dispose of lenses to minimize environmental effects.
- A directory of known recycling programs around the world, as well as a listing of green initiatives from select eye care manufacturers and industry bodies.

- Customizable resources and downloadable infographics that eye care professionals can use to educate patients, some of which are available in 30 languages.
- Tips on how to build sustainability into clinical practice operations.
- A compendium of relevant peer-reviewed and professional publications.

“This Earth Day, we’re encouraging everyone in eye care to take another step toward protecting our planet. Society has benefitted immeasurably from contact lenses and glasses, but that doesn’t mean we shouldn’t be mindful of their disposal. Whether you’re a patient wanting to reduce your plastic footprint or an eye care professional looking to implement greener practices, SustainableEyecare.com provides tools and knowledge to help make a difference,” noted Dr. Jones.

CORE plans to update the site with additional resources from across the eye care spectrum, and encourages organizations to submit their own initiatives for possible inclusion over the coming weeks and months.

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About the Centre for Ocular Research & Education (CORE)

The [Centre for Ocular Research & Education \(CORE\)](#) was established in 1988 at the University of Waterloo’s [School of Optometry & Vision Science](#). Over the next three decades, the organization evolved from a three-person operation into a thriving hub of basic and applied research, collaborating with sponsors, agencies and academia on advanced biosciences, clinical research and education. Its uncompromising independence and results of the highest quality have been at the heart of many of the most prominent advances in eye health. Today, its [team](#) serves a range of ophthalmic sectors, including medical devices, ocular pharmaceuticals, digital technology and others, with a focus on the anterior segment. For more information, please visit core.uwaterloo.ca.

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Sustainable Eyecare

What YOU can do!

Explore our resources to learn what you can do to make contact lens wear and eye care more sustainable. Find out more about proper disposal of contact lens and eye care products, how it affects the environment, along with many more recycling facts!

EYE CARE PRACTITIONERS →



















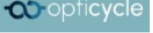
PATIENTS →

Recycling Programs

Contact Lens Recycling Programs

There are a variety of contact lens waste recycling programs available worldwide, including some no-cost options available for the wearer via industry and retail group sponsored programs.

[↓ Jump to Spectacle Recycling programs ↓](#)

Region	Country	Provider	Program
Americas	 Canada (EN)	 with 	Every Contact Counts
Americas	 Canada (EN)	 with 	ACUVUE LensCycle
Americas	 Canada (EN)  Canada (FR)		Zero Waste Box™ / Boîte Zéro Déchet™
Americas	 USA	 with 	ONE by ONE recycling program
Americas	 USA	 with 	Biotrue Eye Care Recycling
Americas	 USA		Zero Waste Box™
Asia Pacific	 Australia		Opticycle

Industry Initiatives

Industry resources & initiatives

Find out more on the sustainability initiatives by the eye care industry by accessing their websites and reading the most recent impact reports below.

	Social Impact and Sustainability website 2023 Social Impact and Sustainability Report
	Recycling Programs website 2023 Impact Report
	Sustainability website 2023 Impact Report
	Guidance: Environmental Sustainability
	Sustainability website 2023 Sustainability Report
	Guide for Environmentally Sustainable Practices in the Eye Health Sector Call to Action for Environmentally Sustainable Practices in The Eye Health Sector
	Sustainability website 2023 Health for Humanity Report
	Sustainable Development Goals website 2023 Sustainability Report
	Sight Advice FAQ: How can I recycle my old glasses