



Department of ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

[Select Language ▼](#)
[Translation
Disclaimer](#)
[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Programs & Services](#)
[Publications](#)
[Forms](#)
[Contact Us](#)
[ENERGY](#)
[ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY](#)
[NATURAL RESOURCES](#)
[OUTDOOR RECREATION](#)
[PURA](#)

Materials Management

[Mercury](#)
[Pesticides](#)
[PCBs](#)
[Petroleum Products](#)
[Radiation](#)
[Underground Storage
Tanks](#)
[Emergency Response and
Spill Prevention](#)
[Materials Management
Main Page](#)
[Main Menu](#)
[Report an
ENVIRONMENTAL
Concern/Problem](#)
[Calendar of Events](#)
[Laws and
Regulations](#)
[Maps and GIS Data](#)
[No Child
Left Inside](#)
[THE OFFICIAL
CT
STATE PARKS & FORESTS
OUTDOORS GUIDE
Pocket Ranger®
Download our free
GPS MOBILE
APP](#)
[energize CT
CONNECTICUT](#)
[DEEP Store](#)
[Sign Up
To Receive Updates /
Newsletters by E-Mail](#)
[Connecticut
still revolutionary](#)
[REGISTER
Online to
VOTE](#)
[Regulations of CT
State Agencies](#)

Mercury Information

Mercury is a heavy metal that can accumulate in living tissue. Exposure to mercury, when released into the environment through spills or incineration, can be toxic to humans and wildlife, or cause other health effects such as neurological and reproductive disorders. Therefore, proper management of used mercury-containing items and elemental mercury is important to protect human health and the environment. By keeping mercury-containing items and elemental mercury out of the trash, or preventing them from going down the drain, we reduce the potential for exposure to mercury. When products containing mercury are discarded in the trash, they simply do not disappear. Most of our trash is incinerated at a resources recovery facility. If a mercury-containing device is incinerated at such a facility, the mercury may enter the environment through the smoke stacks or through the resulting ash. If a mercury-containing device should break while in the waste stream, the mercury may be released into the environment.

By reducing the amount of mercury we use, we can then recycle only what is necessary for useful products for which there is no effective alternative, such as fluorescent lamps. Bringing elemental mercury and mercury-containing items such as thermometers, thermostats, fluorescent lights and button cell batteries to a household hazardous waste collection is one way to properly dispose of mercury-containing items. Another way to reduce the amount of mercury in the environment is to bring the used mercury-containing item, such as fluorescent lamps, to a licensed recycling facility. Check the household hazardous waste and recycling information pages of the Connecticut DEEP website for information on household hazardous waste collection programs and recycling opportunities.

- If you have a mercury spill, please report it to the CT DEEP 24-hour Emergency Response and Spill Prevention Hotline at: 860-424- 3338; or Toll Free at 1-866-DEP-SPIL (1-866-337-7745). If these numbers are unavailable for any reason, call (860) 424-3333.
- For questions regarding potential mercury poisoning, contact the Poison Control Center at the UCONN Health Center at 1-800-222-1222.
- For general questions about mercury, please call the Mercury Information Line at 1-877-537-2488.

Information for Individuals/Families/Consumers

Information for Schools/Colleges/Universities

Information for Manufacturers, Retailers and Wholesalers for Compliance with the Mercury Education and Reduction Act

Information for Dental Offices and Dental Training Schools

Information for Hospitals, Healthcare Facilities and Healthcare Providers

Information for the Auto Industry

Mercury Thermostat Management

Background Information

Environmental Compliance Annual Report 2001 - Special Feature: Focus on Mercury

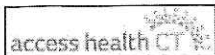
"Toward the Virtual Elimination of Mercury from the Solid Waste Stream" - March 2000 Report to the Connecticut Legislature

Related Links:

[CT Department of Public Health:](#)

[Connecticut's Fish Consumption Advisory](#)

[Metallic Mercury: Health Effects Fact Sheet](#)



[Guidelines For Residential Clean-Up of Broken Thermometers](#)

[EPA Mercury Homepage](#)

[Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association \(NEWMOA\)](#)

[Mercury Pollution in the Northeast - A Guide for Policy Makers \(NEWMOA\)](#)

For additional information, call or write:

Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance

79 Elm Street

Hartford, CT 06106-5127

Phone: **Mercury Information Line at 1-877-537-2488** (This toll-free information line is available during business hours 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

You may also visit our office Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Content Last Updated on May 8, 2013

[Printable Version](#)

79 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-5127 / Phone: 860-424-3000

[Home](#) | [CT.gov Home](#) | [Send Feedback](#) | [Login](#) | [Register](#)

State of Connecticut [Disclaimer](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and [Web Site Accessibility Policy](#). Copyright © 2002-2017 State of Connecticut.

