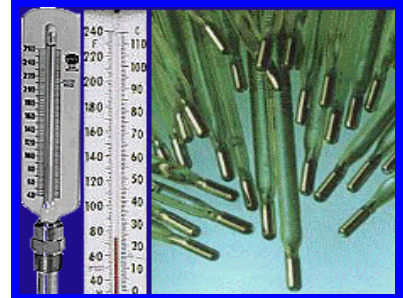


MERCURY THERMOMETERS

MERCURY is an inorganic element that is readily absorbed via the respiratory tract. Mercury in the organic form is extremely toxic via skin contact, inhalation, and ingestion.



Mercury-Containing Thermometers pose the greatest risk of a mercury spill on campus due to the abundance and the potential to breaking.

REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF BROKEN MERCURY THERMOMETERS:

- ❑ **Collect in a container large enough to encapsulate the entire item and spill materials. Zip-lock plastic bags (tape edges if sharp) or wide-mouthed “mayo” jars with lids are acceptable containers for these items.**
- ❑ **Affix a completed hazardous waste label to the container or bag.**
- ❑ **Labels can be obtained through Environmental Services.**
- ❑ **Please notify Environmental Services when a pickup is needed or bring waste to Waste Room, Brown – 1158, Wed. & Fridays, 2:00-2:30.**

SPILLS

- ❑ **Notify Environmental Services (after hours call Protection x8222) whenever a mercury spill occurs.**
- ❑ **Laboratory and clinic employees shall be trained in appropriate cleanup procedures for small spills.**
- ❑ **Mercury spill control kits shall be purchased and readily available for use in each area where mercury is in use. Clean up procedures to be followed are printed inside each kit. Notify Supervisor if a spill kit is not available in your area.**

REMEMBER:

- ❑ **For large spills of mercury notify Protection at x82222 and leave the area.**
- ❑ **For exposures to eyes or skin, immediately flush for at least 15 minutes. For inhalation exposures, remove to fresh air. Seek medical attention.**