

Where is The Mercury?

Thermostats

Most commercial, industrial and residential contain mercury.



Thermometers

If there is a silver liquid inside your thermometer, it's mercury. Red, blue or other colored liquids are alcohol-based.



Light Bulbs

Circular and tube fluorescent lamps, U-tubes, tanning lamps, black lights, bug zappers, high output and germicidal lamps and compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) contain mercury but they last longer and consume 3-4 times less energy.



Switches

Float switches, electrical switches, tilt switches and other appliance switches contain mercury.



Batteries

Hearing aid, camera and watch batteries, and alkalines made before 1996 contain mercury.



How Much Mercury?

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Barometers | 500g |
| Thermostats | 4.5g |
| Small Switches | 4g |
| Large Switches | up to 40g |
| CFLs | 4 to 10mg |
| HID Lamps | up to 1000mg |
| Fluorescent Lamps (per linear foot) | 3.3mg |
| Fever Thermometers | 1g |
| Button Cell Batteries | 9mg |
| Blood Pressure Monitors | 110g |

Mercury can also be found in:

- flame sensors in appliances
- old toys
- electric organs
- pesticides
- skin creams
- anti-lock brake systems
- automotive security systems
- laptop computer covers

Mercury Lamp Disposal

Recycle fluorescent lamps and mercury devices at your town's recycling center year-round.



Barnstable County
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROGRAM
Collaborating with the University of Massachusetts Extension
800-319-2783 508-375-6699

