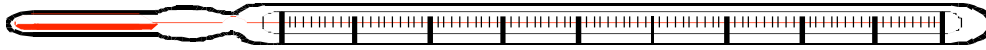


REPLACE YOUR MERCURY THERMOMETERS BEFORE THEY BREAK!

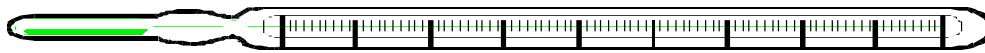
Did you know, mercury from broken thermometers presents a hazard for faculty, staff, and students in laboratory areas? Mercury also presents a hazard to the local environment, if broken thermometers in sinks eventually end at the sanitary sewer plant. Broken mercury thermometers create hazardous waste that is costly to clean up and costly to dispose of. Other, non-mercury thermometers are available, you can replace mercury thermometers with high-tech accurate alternatives that are safe and less toxic.



Mercury Thermometers

Non-Mercury Thermometers

- Mercury thermometers eventually break generating hazardous waste from spill clean-up.
- Mercury is volatile at room temperature with vapors that are colorless, odorless, tasteless, and toxic. Each time a thermometer breaks, there is a potential for lab and clean-up personnel to be exposed to mercury.
- Mercury thermometers and the contaminated clean-up materials generated by a spill are very expensive to dispose of.
- 0.5 grams of Mercury from one broken thermometer can detectably pollute 5 million gallons of San Francisco Bay water.
- Replacing mercury thermometers with non-mercury thermometers reduces clean-up costs from breaks and spills.
- Non-mercury thermometers are less toxic and result in no exposure to hazardous mercury vapors.
- Most non-mercury thermometers are certified by the National Institute of Standard and Technology or the National Committee for Clinical Laboratory Standards to meet accuracy requirements.
- Non-mercury thermometers are available for temperature ranges from; -100 to 260 °C (-148 to 500 °F).



Non-mercury thermometers can be used in incubators, water baths, or other applications where mercury thermometers have been traditionally used. Please consider replacing your mercury thermometer with a non-mercury thermometer!

You can purchase non-mercury thermometers at your local campus store or directly through a vendor. Please dispose of your mercury thermometer through Environmental Health and Safety, as you would other hazardous waste.

For more information please call:

723-1308

See our web site at www.stanford.edu/dept/EHS