

355 Lexington Avenue - 15th Floor | New York, NY 10017 | thermostat-recycle.org

MERCURY THERMOSTAT RECYCLING

Safety Requirements:

The storage and transport of waste mercury thermostats is regulated by state and federal authorities. Personnel who manage waste thermostats at your facility should be familiar with universal waste management requirements below, to protect waste mercury thermostats during storage and transport and to comply with state and federal regulations.

- Do not accept any other product other than thermostats that contain mercury (such as mercury bulbs, liquid mercury, leaking thermostats, etc.).
- Strongly encourage your customers to recycle the whole thermostat with the cover attached. However, the cover is not required. If mercury switches have been clipped from thermostat you must contact TRC at 888-266-0550.
- Place the accumulation start-date label provided on the container and date when the first thermostat is placed in the bin. Per state regulations you must ship the bin back to TRC, so it does not remain on site for more than one year.

To use the recycling container, follow these steps:

- 1. Unfold the plastic bag liner and use it to line the recycling/shipping container. Carefully place all collected thermostats inside the plastic liner. Don't forget to provide the \$5 in-store credit.
- 2. Monitor collections closely to ensure compliance with state and federal regulations. Training Video: <u>https://youtu.be/BbtAFZmPZ70</u>
- 3. All supplies for shipment should be in your bin. To prepare to ship, fold the plastic bag liner closed and use the zip tie to seal the bag. **You must include rebate paperwork in container.**
- 4. Flip the container lid closed, taking care to overlap the "jaws" properly. Secure by placing zip ties through the holes on each end of the container to make sure bin is tightly closed before shipping.
- 5. Fill in your company name and address on the top of the shipping label.
- 6. Apply the sticky side of the plastic pouch (provided) directly on to the outside of recycling container. Place the red and white FedEx label inside of the pouch and zip it shut. Call the carrier for pickup the contact information is on the label. Or, just include the collection container with your next outgoing shipment. Make sure to keep the tracking numbers in case you need to confirm receipt of bin by TRC.
- 7. The container will be returned to continue in the program, approximately 3-4 weeks.

Accept Only Wall-Mount Mercury-Switch Thermostats







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Retail Rebate Program Instructions:

- Customer gets instant \$5 in-store credit
- \$5 coupons tear pad included in recycling container to use with customers
- Facility completes form included in recycling container
- Location keeps one copy and includes the other copy in the recycling container when shipping back to be reimbursed by TRC
- For missing rebate paperwork or shipping materials, contact TRC at (888) 266-0550



In case of mercury spill or leak:

- 1. Open windows to ventilate the area. Close off the room from other rooms in your facility. Shut the door and close any air pathways (like floor or ceiling grates, air conditioning or heating vents) which will circulate mercury vapors into other areas of the facility.
- 2. Isolate the area for at least 15 minutes keeping all people and pets away to avoid tracking it into other areas of the facility. DO NOT VACUUM OR SWEEP the mercury.
- 3. If the spill is larger than **one** thermostat ampule contact the state Spill Response Team 802-828-1138 or 802-522-5736 during office hours or 24-Hour Reporting 800-641-5005 off hours 800-640-4374.
- 4. Wear disposable gloves if possible when cleaning the spill. Use stiff cardboard (such as playing cards or index cards) to push mercury droplets together and to scoop up beads of mercury; a flashlight will reflect off shiny mercury beads and make them easier to see.
- 5. Use the sticky side of duct or masking tape to pick up any remaining mercury beads. Do not vacuum.
- 6. Place the mercury-contaminated cleanup materials (cardboard, gloves, tape, etc.) into double plastic bags or preferably a glass or rigid sealable container with a lid for containment. In the meantime, store the container (label and separate from your regular trash) outside the facility in an area inaccessible to children. Contact your local solid waste facility www.802recycles.com for proper disposal of spill cleanup debris. See www.mercvt.org "proper disposal" or call toll free -855-63-CYCLE or (802) 522-5736.
- 7. Wash your hands or shower if you encountered the mercury.
- 8. For health questions, call 800-439-8550 and dial zero to speak with an operator. During non-work hours, call Dept. of Health 800-439-8550 or the Northern New England Poison Center at 800-222-1222.
- 9. Once cleaned up, weather permitting, leave windows in the contaminated room open if practical.

NEED HELP?

Contact TRC at 888-266-0550 or TRC@thermostat-recycle.org

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