



# Hazardous Waste Disposal

## MERCURY WASTE

Mercury wastes are considered both toxic and corrosive. Under the Transportation of Dangerous Goods and BC Hazardous Waste Disposal Regulations, mercury containing items must be disposed of through Health, Safety & Environment (HSE). Examples are thermometers, barometers and manometers (broken or unbroken).

For reference, mercury thermometers have a silver liquid, whereas alcohol-based thermometers are generally red or blue.

*Any mercury spills regardless of size must be reported to Security and HSE (807-8111) immediately.*

## HOW TO DISPOSE

- Collect contained mercury waste (ie. unbroken thermometers, barometers, manometers) in a thick plastic bag. **Double bag.**
- If broken, place the pieces into a **solid container** (i.e. plastic box) prior to bagging
- Seal container(s) prior to pickup. Store materials in an appropriate location for the contents.
- Fill out the Hazardous Materials Disposal tag for chemicals.
- Register your waste as “Chemical Waste” through the Hazardous Waste Inventory System (HWIS).
- Prior to pick-up, please ensure:
  - exterior of container/bag is not contaminated
  - container is sealed/capped
  - label is affixed and complete

For uncontained mercury waste contact Health, Safety & Environment for specific handling and disposal procedures.

## INFOGRAPHICS

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# Procedure for mercury waste

*This is a guide to help you determine how to safely dispose of your hazardous waste. If you have questions, contact HSE.*

## 1 What is it?

Mercury waste can be

- mercury itself
- items contaminated with mercury
- items which contain mercury
- disposal of **thermometers, barometers, manometers** and other instruments which contain mercury must be disposed of through HSE regardless of state (broken or unbroken)



## 2 Contained mercury waste

- Contained mercury waste is items such as **unbroken** thermometers, barometers, manometers
- **Double bag** unbroken contained mercury. Seal bag shut.



## 3 Uncontained mercury waste

1. For **broken thermometers, manometers and barometers**:
  - place broken pieces into a **solid container** prior to **double bagging**
2. For **uncontained mercury waste (elemental mercury)**:
  - Contact HSE for specific handling and disposal procedures

## 4 Request Pick-up

- Ensure exterior of waste is **not contaminated** and container/bag is **sealed** tightly
- Fill out and affix chemical waste tag
- Request pick-up through the [HWIS](#) as a **chemical waste**
- Store in appropriate location for pickup



## 5 What happens after pick-up?

After pick-up, HSE **stores** the chemicals according to hazard class.

- The containers are then picked up and disposed of by our waste contractor
  - to prevent undue harm to HSE and others, you must use the appropriate container for your waste, decontaminate the exterior of the container, and properly list all chemicals within.



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### Still have questions?

Contact Health, Safety and Environment



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