

# Household Mercury Search

Contact IDEM  
at 800-988-7901  
for free mercury  
stickers.



Use this Mercury Search to locate mercury containing items in your home. Mark them with stickers or some other form of identification as a reminder to ensure the mercury gets recycled. Store these items out of children's reach. Handle the products carefully to avoid breakage or spills. Remove unnecessary mercury-containing items from your home and take them to your local mercury recycling site.

- \_\_\_\_\_ [Thermometers](#) - silver-colored liquid inside.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Thermostats](#) - nonelectronic.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Fluorescent and other mercury vapor lighting](#) - HID (high intensity discharge), metal halide, high-pressure sodium and neon bulbs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Automotive headlamps](#) - blue tint when lit.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Pilot light sensors](#) - in some gas appliances: stoves, ovens, clothes dryers, water heaters, furnaces, space heaters.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Gauges](#) - barometers, manometers, blood pressure and vacuum gauges with silver-colored liquid.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Switches and relays](#) - in some chest freezers, pre-1972 washing machines, sump and bilge pumps, electric space heaters, silent light switches, vehicles and farm equipment.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Clothes irons](#) - automatic or tilt shut-offs.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Elemental mercury](#) - silver-colored liquid metal sometimes found in children's chemistry sets.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Vintage toys](#) - toy drawing screens and mercury maze games.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [LA Gear® athletic shoes](#) - made before 1997 with flashing lights in soles.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Batteries](#) - mercuric oxide and some alkaline batteries.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Paint](#) - latex manufactured before 1990, and some oil base-paints; check the label.
- \_\_\_\_\_ [Thimerosal or merbromin](#) - in some antibacterial products.



## Disposing of Mercury-Containing Items

Keep these items out of the trash. When products containing mercury are placed in the trash or mercury is poured down the drain, it does not disappear. It finds its way into the environment from waste incinerators, landfills and wastewater treatment facilities. Take mercury containing items to your local [solid waste management district](#), or in Marion County, contact the [ToxDrop](#) at 317-327-4TOX.

## Cleaning up Mercury Spills

Even tiny mercury spills are difficult cleanups. Never use a vacuum cleaner or shop vac! For small mercury spills such as those from fever thermometers or for broken fluorescent light bulbs, follow instructions for cleaning up a [small household mercury spill](#) [pdf] 28K. If human contact with mercury occurs, call the [Indiana Poison Center](#) at (800) 382-9097.



For additional information on household mercury, see the web at [www.in.gov/idem/ctap/mercury](http://www.in.gov/idem/ctap/mercury).

