

Requirements for HVAC Contractors and Demolition Professionals

THE Mercury Thermostat Collection Act OF 2008

The Mercury Thermostat Collection Act of 2008 requires construction and demolition professionals to properly remove and dispose of out-of-service mercury-added thermostats.

Effective July 1, 2009, the law requires the following:

HVAC Contractors who install heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning components are required to:

- Handle and transport out-of-service mercury-added thermostats in accordance with the Universal Waste Regulations (UWR) found in CA Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 23. For summary of the UWR for out-of-service mercury-added thermostats visit http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/upload/UW_-_thermostats_NS.pdf
- Take out-of-service mercury-added thermostats to a collection location that is operated in accordance with Universal Waste Regulations.

Persons engaged in building demolition are required to:

- Remove out-of-service mercury-added thermostats prior to demolition in accordance with the UWR.
- Handle and transport out-of-service mercury-added thermostats in accordance with the Universal Waste Regulations found in CA Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 23. For summary of the UWR for out-of-service mercury-added thermostats visit http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/upload/UW_-_thermostats_NS.pdf
- Take out-of-service mercury-added thermostats to a collection location that is operated in accordance with Universal Waste Regulations.



Collection bins for out-of-service mercury-added thermostats are required by law to be provided at HVAC wholesaler locations in California. To find a HVAC wholesaler near you, visit <http://www.thermostat-recycle.org>¹.

Collection bins may also be found at local government agency household hazardous waste (HHW) collection facilities. To find a HHW collection facility near you, visit <http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/UniversalWaste/HHW.cfm>

Failure to comply with this law may result in penalties of up to twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) for each separate violation or, for continuing violations, for each day that a violation continues.

Learn more about the law and the obligations for contractors and building demolition at: http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/HazardousWaste/Mercury_Therm_Act.cfm

For questions/concerns, contact DTSC at thermostats@dtsc.ca.gov or DTSC's Regulatory Assistance Officers at **800-72-TOXIC (800-728-6942)**.

1. The link provides additional information that may be useful or interesting and is being provided consistent with the intended purpose of the Mercury Thermostat Collection Act. However, DTSC cannot attest to the accuracy of information provided by this link or any other linked site. Providing links to a non-DTSC Web site does not constitute an endorsement by DTSC or any of its employees of the sponsors of the site or the information or products presented on the site.



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