

ThermostatCare

Mercury thermostats are considered universal waste and can pose a serious health hazard to our communities and environment. In 2006, the State of California banned the sale of new mercury-containing thermostats due to these public health and safety concerns, but there are still old mercury thermostats in circulation across the state.



Impact on Public Health

If mercury-containing thermostats are mishandled or improperly disposed in household trash, they can easily break, become a health risk, and contaminate water and soil. Each mercury thermostat contains about 3 grams of mercury, and according to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control, one gram of mercury can contaminate a 20-acre lake.



Contractor Compliance and Responsibility

Contractors licensed through the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) play a crucial role in ensuring the safe disposal of these thermostats because you are likely to come across mercury thermostats in your various projects. For example, contractors assisting a resident in replacing a manual mercury thermostat with a digital or smart energy-saving thermostat must adhere to Universal Waste Regulations concerning proper handling and disposal.

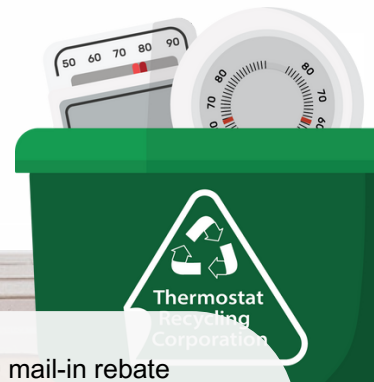
The Program

Thermostat Care is a stewardship program regulated by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to keep mercury thermostats out of our landfills and ensure they are disposed of safely. Thermostat Care helps contractors across California comply with regulations by providing a free collection container with pre-paid shipping to send mercury thermostats to Thermostat Care for safe and proper management.



How to Participate in the Program

- **Request a free collection container:** Send completed request form (found on ThermostatCare.org) to ContainerRequests@ThermostatCare.org. All shipping and return shipping costs are at no charge.
- **Drop off mercury thermostats at a public site:** Visit any HVAC wholesaler or visit ThermostatCare.org/Locations for a list of nearby sites.



Rebate Eligibility: California residents who are not licensed contractors are eligible for a \$30 mail-in rebate per mercury thermostat. When you collect mercury thermostats from clients, we advise you to let them know they may be eligible for the rebate. Unlicensed service technicians who are California residents may also be eligible. Please visit ThermostatCare.org to learn more about eligibility.