Connecticut’s Mercury Thermostat Stewardship Law

• Passed in 2012
• As of April 1, 2013, requires manufacturers to establish a program to “collect, transport and properly manage” any out-of-service mercury thermostat.
• As of July 1, 2014 no manufacturer, wholesaler, or qualified contractor (more than 7 service technicians) may sell any thermostat unless they are participating in the program.
• As of July 1, 2014 prohibits any person from placing a mercury thermostat in the solid waste stream
Other Provisions

• Any contractor who demolishes a building must first remove mercury thermostats and recycle them on their own or through manufacturer program.

• As of April 1, 2014, the department will post a list of participating collection locations

• The manufacturers must report to the department providing a “self-evaluation” of the success of the program certified by a third party.
Thermostat Recycling Corporation

• Founded in 1998 by White-Rodgers, GE and Honeywell, as a voluntary program to recover mercury thermostats.
• Available in Connecticut in 1998
• Established collection points through HVAC wholesalers
Municipalities

- Can serve as a collection point if they have the proper permit.
- Municipal Transfer Station General Permit Allows for collection of mercury thermostats.
- Contact TRC at 1-888-266-0550 or go to their website to receive a collection container.
- Household Hazardous Waste facilities may also participate.
- Law allows a one time fee of $75 paid to TRC for the first container.
- Direct residents to the TRC website to find the nearest collection site.
Promotion of the Program

• TRC provides material with each collection container
• DEEP website will post collection locations by April 1, 2014.
• DEEP updating mercury webpages to include information on the law.
• DEEP/TRC planning a conference all sometime in May to present the program.
Links

• Mercury Thermostat Law

• Thermostat Recycling Corporation

• DEEP Mercury Page