

<b>ANGELINA COLLEGE UNIVERSAL WASTE DISPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS</b>	
<b>NO.</b> EI-02 6.2.c	<b>TITLE:</b> Mercury Containing Equipment <b>PAGE</b> 1 of 1 <b>ISSUED:</b> 11/11 <b>REVISED:</b> 6/23

**Introduction:**

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed and streamlined hazardous waste management requirements for collecting and managing certain widely generated hazardous waste by creating a “Universal Waste” category.

This rule is designed to:

- Reduce the amount of hazardous waste items in the municipal solid waste stream
- Encourage recycling and proper disposal
- Reduce regulatory burdens on entities that generate these wastes

All employees who handle or have responsibility for managing universal waste must be informed and trained as to the proper handling and emergency procedures appropriate to the type(s) of universal waste.

**Universal Waste Covered:**

Mercury Containing Device means a product or component of a product (including thermostats but excluding batteries and lamps) which contains intact elemental mercury that is necessary for operation of the device. Examples include but are not limited to:

- Thermometers
- Manometers
- Barometers
- Electric Relays
- Electric Switches
- Sphygmomanometers

**Disposal Procedure:**

- Place the mercury-containing ampoule in a compatible, closed container.
- Date and label the container with “Universal Waste—Mercury Containing Device”.
- Take the container with the ampoule to the Campus Services Building.

As a Small Quantity Generator, Angelina College must manage mercury containing devices in a way that prevents releases of any mercury to the environment. If a mercury containing device shows evidence of leakage or damage that could cause leakage, place the device in a closed, structurally sound container.

If you have questions concerning any device containing mercury, contact the Environmental Projects Coordinator at ext. 3244.

**Elimination of Mercury Containing Devices from the Institution:**

Angelina College will continue mercury elimination efforts through the evaluation of non-mercury alternatives. Specific actions will include:

- Mercury switches on alarms and vacuum pumps will be replaced as they fail.
- Lab refrigerators will be replaced with refrigerators without mercury-containing thermometers as they are retired from service.
- The mercury-containing boiler switches, which are built into the boilers, will be removed with the boilers when the boilers are replaced.
- All mercury-containing devices that are removed from service will be collected by the Maintenance Staff, Environmental Projects Coordinator, or by designated staff who have received adequate training. They will be disposed of by a contractor licensed to dispose of hazardous materials retained by AC Campus Services.
- All mercury-containing devices, when possible, will be tagged with a label clearly identifying them as mercury-containing.

**Universal Waste Storage Area:**

The Universal Waste Storage Area is located inside the fenced area south of the Maintenance Shop.

**Collection of Universal Wastes:**

Contact the Physical Plant at ext. 5280.

**If Unsure, Contact:**

Environmental Projects Coordinator at ext. 3244.