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:

**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 found in CA Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 23.
- 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 all applicable California regulations.
- 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.
- 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](http://www.thermostat-recycle.org).

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](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](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).