



10545 Armstrong Avenue

Mather
California

95655

Tele: [916] 876-6000

Fax: [916] 876-6160

Website: www.srcsd.com

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Heleana Faria
Communications & Media Officer
Phone: (916) 876-6088
fariah@saccounty.net



MEDIA ADVISORY

Mercury Thermometer Collection Event Comes to Land Park Area

Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District program encourages residents to collect and recycle mercury-containing thermometers.

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WHO: Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District and their *Be Mercury Free* program

WHAT: Mercury pollution and recycling efforts countywide

WHERE: Exchange event, targeting the collection of silver mercury thermometers will take place at:

Land Park Leader Pharmacy
4404 Del Rio Road, Sacramento, CA
(in the shopping center at Sutterville and Del Rio Road)

WHEN: Wednesday, November 26th, 2003 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) is striving to educate Sacramento County residents about the sources and effects of mercury, an element often found in old, silver thermometers that can be harmful to the environment and human health if disposed of improperly.

SRCSD created the *Be Mercury Free* program with the goal of reducing the amount of mercury entering the Sacramento River watershed. This program is a comprehensive effort to eliminate common sources of mercury pollution, such as silver mercury thermometers found in households, old laboratory equipment in schools and universities, blood-pressure cuffs used in hospitals and amalgam (“silver”) fillings used in dental offices – all of which can end up in the watershed if disposed of improperly.

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The *Be Mercury Free* program launched to the general public in October and continues with the second mercury thermometer collection event this month in Land Park. County residents can recycle their mercury thermometers at this special collection event, taking place at Land Park Leader Pharmacy on Sutterville and Del Rio Road from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Attendees will receive a free digital thermometer in exchange for a mercury thermometer. SRCSD representatives will also be on hand to answer questions about mercury pollution prevention and proper disposal.

For more information, call (916) 875-6644 or visit www.bemercuryfree.net.

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