



CALENDAR RELEASE

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Month-long Mercury Thermometer Collection Event Kicks Off Tuesday March 1 at Leader Pharmacies

During March, exchange your silver mercury fever thermometers for a new free digital thermometer at twenty-two Leader Pharmacies through out the Greater Sacramento Area.

SACRAMENTO, CA – Mercury, an element often found in old thermometers, can be harmful to the environment and human health if improperly disposed of. Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD), Sacramento Stormwater Quality Partnership (SSQP) and Leader Pharmacies encourage Sacramento residents to *Be Mercury Free* by recycling their mercury fever thermometers during a month-long collection event in March. During this event one new FREE digital thermometer will be given to each household that turns in silver mercury fever thermometers.

WHAT: *Mercury Free March* Thermometer Exchange Event

WHEN/HOW: Collection activities will take place during the month of March, during normal pharmacy hours. To turn in your old silver mercury fever thermometers, please place them in a sandwich-type plastic bag for safe collection.

WHERE: **Leader Pharmacies in the Greater Sacramento Area**

WHY: *Mercury Free March* is part of the regional *Be Mercury Free* public education campaign aimed at increasing awareness about mercury pollution. The program provides information on how to identify mercury-containing products and replace them with mercury-free alternatives, and encourages proper disposal techniques. For more information, call (916) 875-6644 or visit www.bemercuryfree.net.

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