



OCRRA & Reworld Mercury Collection Event Saturday, September 13, 2025

SYRACUSE, N.Y. [September 10, 2025] — It's that time of year! Temperatures are dropping and we're hearing more coughing and sneezing. Families may decide to replace an old thermometer or thermostat. Before you toss them in the trash, it is important to find out if they have mercury inside. Devices that contain mercury require special management for disposal and NEVER belong in curbside trash or recycling bins where they can break and put haulers at risk. Without proper management, mercury can be harmful to people, wildlife and the environment.

A **FREE** opportunity for Onondaga County residents to properly dispose of mercury thermometers or thermostats is coming up in one week. **An appointment is required and time is running out!** OCRRA and Reworld (formerly Covanta) are hosting the drop-off event on **Saturday, September 13 from 8 – 11 a.m.** Visit <https://ocrra.org/events/mercury-collection-event-2025/> for details.

Reworld will supply one \$10 Lowe's gift card to registrants who drop off one or more mercury thermometers or thermostats at the event. One free digital thermometer will be given to registrants who bring one or more mercury thermometers.

Mercury Thermostats and Thermometers

Not sure if your device has mercury? Watch this video: https://youtu.be/CFLG2M_fCU8.

- Mercury **thermostats** have levers or dials to change the temperature. If you remove the faceplate and see a glass capsule with a silver substance, it contains mercury. Do not remove or break the capsule. If your thermostat is digital / programmable, it is not eligible for drop-off and can go in the trash.

- Mercury **thermometers** have tubes with silver or metallic grey filling. Other colors indicate the device doesn't contain mercury and can be thrown in the trash.

Note for digital and broadcast outlets: B-roll with a soundbite at the :50 mark with OCRRA Assistant Engineer Jack Connery is available via WeTransfer request to tpalmer@ocrra.org or via direct YouTube download: https://youtu.be/0N_01ZBHVeE

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About OCRRA

OCRRA is a not-for-profit, public benefit corporation created by the New York State Legislature to deliver a comprehensive solid waste management and resource recovery system to Onondaga County residents. Services include recycling education, a Household Hazardous Waste Program, organics management at Jamesville and Amboy Compost Sites, and waste management at the Rock Cut Road Transfer Station. Learn more at www.OCRRA.org,

About Reworld™

Reworld™ is a leader in sustainable waste solutions, providing innovative and environmentally responsible services to a global community. Reworld™ is committed to advancing zero waste initiatives and supporting sustainability goals through state-of-the-art technologies that reimagine, reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, and renew. For more information, visit www.reworldwaste.com.