

The City of Brewer has always been committed to improving the environment. One of the basic elemental metals, Mercury, has been a problem for many years, due to the contamination it causes. Although most of the contamination in Maine is caused by airborne Mercury blowing in from the West, we as consumers have the opportunity to assist in protecting the environment by purchasing low, or no Mercury products.

PRODUCT

ALTERNATIVE

Thermometers	Alcohol and digital thermometers
Thermostats	Electronic models and snap switches
Silver amalgam fillings	Precapsulated amalgam fillings
Quicksilver Maze Toys	Mercury free toys
Lighted sneakers *	Mercury free sneakers
Latex paint(prior to 1990)	New latex paint
Switches	Mechanical or pressure switches
Medical products: *	
Contact lens solution, diuretics, nasal spray, eye area cosmetics disinfectants, homeopathic medications	Read the labels to look for low or no Mercury products
Lights (Fluorescent & high intensity discharge lamps)	These lights contain mercury, but energy will be conserved thereby reducing mercury emissions from coal and oil
Cleaning products	Read the label and look for low or no mercury cleaning products
Pesticides and insecticides	Low or no mercury products
Mercury-oxide batteries	Zinc air or silver oxide batteries

* Note: The primary concern is the disposal and not the exposure to mercury.

Examples of products known to contain mercury:

Ajax Powder, Comet Cleanser, Lysol Direct, Soft Scrub, Kodak Fixer, Alconox Soap, Derma Scrub, Dove Soap, Ivory Dishwashing Liquid, Joy Dishwashing Liquid, Murphy's Oil Soap, Soft Cide Soap(Baxter), Sparkleen Detergent, Sunlight Dishwashing Detergent