



### **About TRC**

The Thermostat Recycling Corporation (TRC) is a not-for-profit organization that facilitates the collection and proper disposal of mercury-containing thermostats. Voluntarily founded by Honeywell, White-Rodgers, and General Electric in 1998, TRC's mission is to promote the safe collection and proper disposal of mercury-containing thermostats. TRC is one of first producer responsibility organizations and reflects its members' commitment to keep mercury-containing thermostats from solid waste.

TRC has distributed over 3,400 collection containers nationwide to participating collection locations. Heating and air conditioning (HVAC) wholesalers and contractors are eligible to participate in the program and in 2006 TRC expanded its operations to include household hazardous waste collection programs and retailers. TRC is financially supported by over 20 manufacturers that historically distributed mercury-containing thermostats in the U.S. Outside of a modest one-time participation fee, TRC assumes all costs for the transport and processing of thermostats recovered through the program.

### **Educational Campaign**

TRC conducts a national effort to generate awareness on the need to properly dispose mercury-containing thermostats and to actively solicit program participation. Through national and regional advertising, industry events, workshops, and other outreach activities TRC actively promotes the need for proper disposal of mercury-containing thermostats.

### **Collection Program**

TRC provides collection containers to HVAC wholesalers, HVAC contractors, household hazardous waste collection programs, and retailers who sell thermostats. TRC charges a modest one-time fee to participate in the program. TRC provides all collection containers and collateral materials and pays all shipping and recycling costs. The program provides an array of convenient options for contractors and homeowners to properly dispose of mercury-containing thermostats. TRC has placed containers in 47 states and has collected over 750,000 mercury-containing thermostats since the program's inception.

### **Program Funding**

The program is funded by thermostat manufacturers that historically distributed mercury-containing thermostats in the U.S. Over 20 manufacturers now support the program. Members' fees are proportional, based on the prior years collections of their brand name thermostats. The continued financial support of TRC by its members demonstrates their commitment to the environment.

### **Mercury Product Legislation**

TRC would not exist without the inclusion of mercury-containing thermostats in the universal waste rule. TRC founding members Honeywell, White-Rodgers and General Electric actively support the National Electrical Manufacturers Association's efforts to include mercury-containing thermostats in the rule and its subsequent adoption by the states.

Currently 15 U.S. states have disposal bans and/or collection requirements. Five states, California, Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and Vermont, require manufacturers to develop and implement a state-approved mercury-containing thermostat collection program as a requirement of selling any thermostat in the state.

For more information on participating in TRC call 1-800-238-8192 or to find a collection location nearest you visit [www.thermostat-recycle.org](http://www.thermostat-recycle.org).