Mercury emissions from wastes

Inadequate or improper disposal of wastes can result in the leakage of toxic material, such as mercury, into the environment where it endangers wildlife and humans. When products containing mercury are disposed of and broken or burned and the mercury escapes from them, the mercury begins to circulate in the biosphere.

Items containing hazardous chemicals including

•Broken thermometers, cans of paint, household chemicals, batteries, broken fluorescent bulbs etc.





Precautions to take to avoid exposure to mercury in wastes,

- Mercury containing products should be segregated from other wastes for safe handling and disposal
- If stored, the waste should be kept in closed containers in order to prevent any leaks or vaporization;
- Take special precautions to avoid mercury emissions when recycling and recovering mercury containing wastes
- Mercury-containing waste should never be burned or incinerated
- Wear protective clothing.



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