

Eliminate the discharge of **MERCURY** into our waterways.

If your home or business is connected to the county sewer, then everything you put down the drain or flush down the toilet will enter the sewage treatment plant. Unfortunately, not all pollutants can be fully removed by a wastewater treatment plant. That is why the best way to prevent certain pollutants from entering the environment is to never dispose of them into the sewer.

When mercury finds its way into our waterways, microorganisms convert it to methylmercury, which is the form that is especially toxic to humans and absorbed by fish. In the food chain methylmercury is bio-accumulative resulting in concentrated levels in fish. High levels of methylmercury can cause damage to the brain, heart, kidney, lungs, and the immune system in both children and adults.

Check ingredient listings on product labels before disposal.

A few examples of items that should not be flushed are products containing:

Mercurochrome, Mercurothiolate, Merthiolate, Mertorgan, Merzonin, Thimerosal, Thiomersal, and Thimerosalate, Mercuric Chloride, Phenylmercuric Borate, Mercuric Iodide, Mercuric Amidochloride.

Instead, take any mercury-containing products that you have collected to your local hazardous waste collection facility. Be careful that mercury thermometers are well protected from breakage. Call your local Town or Village, or check their website for information on where to bring mercury containing waste.

Your help will make the difference!

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK - DEPT.OF PUBLIC WORKS