

# Mercury Switch Spill Cleanup



**If you break a mercury switch and release liquid mercury, contaminated materials must be cleaned up and residues handled as hazardous waste.**

1. Stop work in the area and keep people away until the cleanup is complete.
2. Use protective gloves and mask to avoid exposure to mercury containing dust.
3. Clean up the spill area by removing enough soil to fully contain all spilled mercury.
4. Place all switch parts and contaminated soil in a container. **DO NOT PLACE IN THE ELVS CONTAINER WITH YOUR SWITCHES FOR RETURN!** The ELVS program does not accept contaminated soil.
5. Put the lid on the container and keep it closed. Label the container as "Hazardous Waste", Mercury Spill Residue.
6. Call a hazardous waste disposal contractor to dispose of the contaminated waste. DEQ's Regional Offices can assist you in locating a contractor for your area. Regional Office contact information is available by calling 1-800-592-5482 or through our website.



*Make sure that you collect all of the contaminated soil!*

