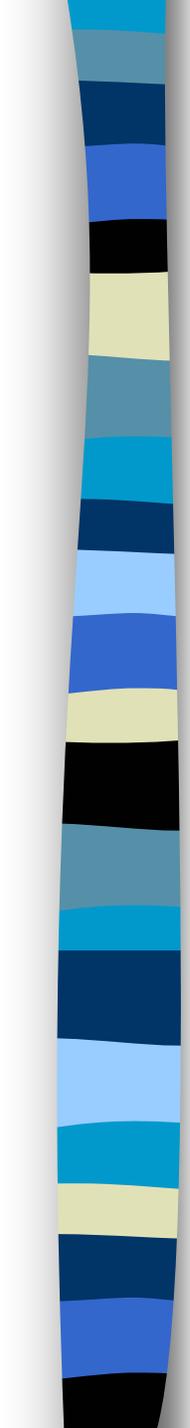


Where We Are in the Scheme of Things

Thurston County





Why We Do Some of the Things We Do

- Mission to protect public health
- Hazardous Waste Plan for Thurston County
- DOE named mercury as its first priority in PBT strategy
- Supplemental grants
- Regional effort



Some of the Things We Do

- HazoHouse & WasteMobile
- Thermometer exchange
- Thermostat recycling
- Fluorescent take-back
- Upcoming projects



HazoHouse and WasteMobile

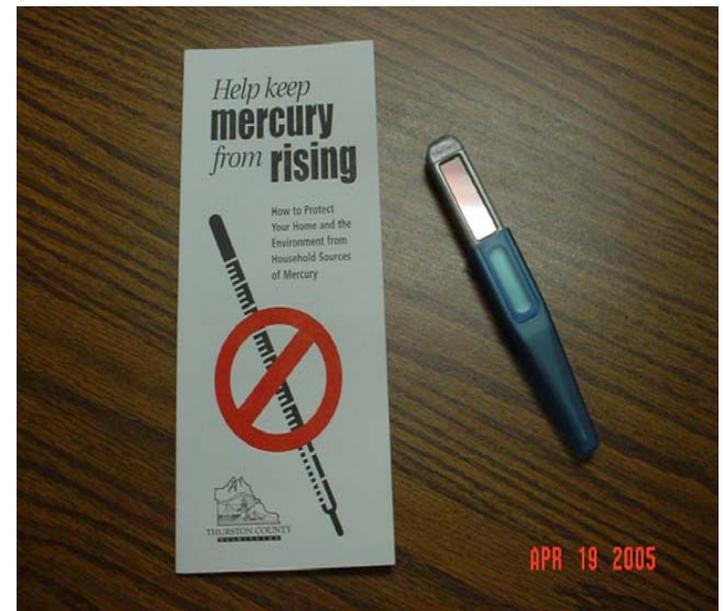


Thermometer Exchange



- February 2003
- Survey: 36% had mercury thermometers
- Collected 4000 in 2 weeks

- ~ 4 lbs total mercury
- ~ 9% of total in county



Thermometer Exchange



Why Successful?



- Regional effort: King, Snohomish & Pierce
- Media
- Mercury Reduction Bill
- Free item!

Thermostat Recycling

- Another supplemental
- DOH & EPA grant
- Increase Thermostat Recycling Corp's effectiveness



Thermostat Recycling

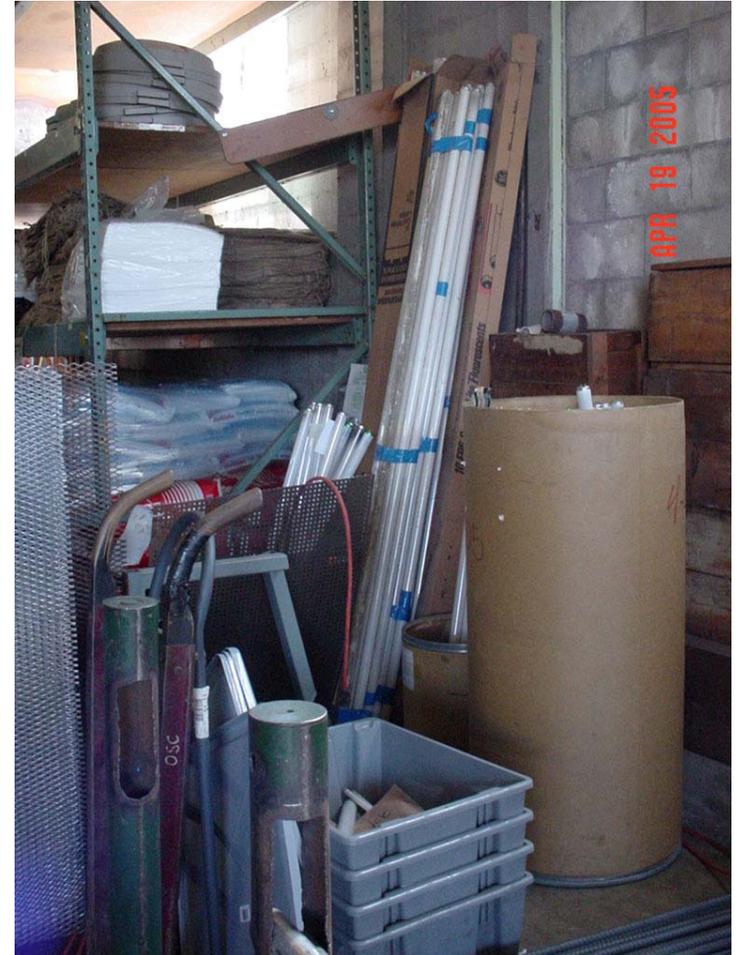


Fluorescent Tube Recycling

- Joined Lamp Coalition/NWPSC
- Partnership with retailers and utilities



Fluorescent Take-Back

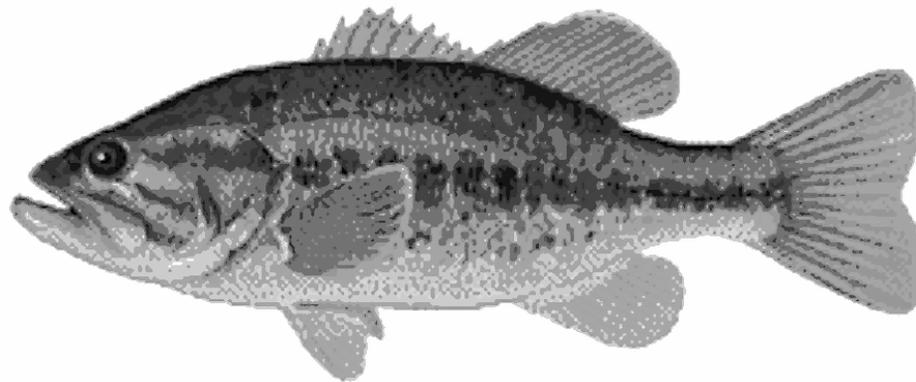


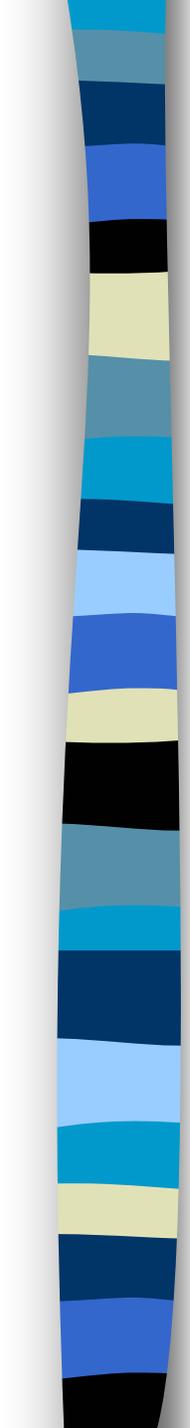
Compact Fluorescent Lights



Upcoming Projects

- 2005-2007 supplemental
- County fleet and auto recycler switches
- Fish consumption education
- Follow-up survey





Lessons Learned

- Partners
- But take-back increases risk of exposing customers to hazardous items
- Use only trained staff for high risk programs
- Regional approach – more economical and effective

Another Approach

- Children's Environmental Health Campaign

Protect KIDS FROM TOXINS

Keep toxins out of your HOME

- Keep your home and car smoke-free
- Use non-toxic cleaning products
- Choose low-odor paint
- Wipe your feet and leave your shoes at the door



Keep toxins out of your YARD

- Avoid using weed and bug killers
- Avoid "weed & feed" products
- Cover bare dirt



Keep toxins out of YOU!

- Wash your hands well and often
- Wash fruits and vegetables
- Choose organic food when possible
- Eat fish low in mercury



To learn more, call Thurston County Public Health and Social Services, Environmental Health Division at 360-754-4111 or visit our website at www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/kids.

