

# HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE SAFETY TIPS

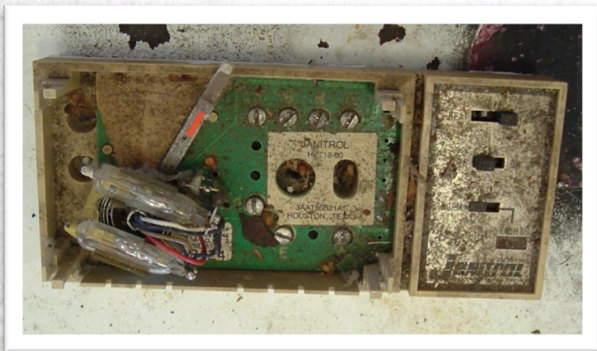
## Compact Fluorescent Lamps and Batteries

Compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs) and small batteries don't mix well when moved, especially in plastic grocery bags. The batteries can break CFLs, releasing mercury vapor. To avoid this, keep batteries and CFLs apart. Batteries can be placed in boxes, zipper bags or plastic jars. CFLs are best carried in their original packaging, or wrapped in paper or other padding. Keep CFLs separate from other heavy objects.



## Keep Thermostats Covered

The fragile mercury vials in Mercury switch thermostats can break if the cover has been removed. This can result in a costly cleanup. Leaving the cover in place is the safest option for carrying thermostats to the Hazardous Waste Center for disposal.



## Controlling Leaks

Controlling leaks from items brought to

the Hazardous Waste Center will prevent exposure to harmful materials and avoid damage to your car. Household items like large zipper bags or plastic buckets are great for keeping leaks under control. While wearing rubber gloves, simply place the problem container in the bag or bucket and close. Remember to label the items before you arrive to the center.



## Label It

If your hazardous materials are not in the original containers, please label the container for your safety and the safety of the Hazardous Waste Center staff. Simple, bold and clear should be your guide. Don't just write "bug spray" on a jar, or even the trade name, **write down the main ingredient**. It will help you remember, and will help us to safely sort and dispose of your material.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (850) 606-1803