

## **Mercury Reduction Policy**

Mercury is a persistent bioaccumulative toxic. It poses a hazard to faculty, staff, and students through inhalation of vapor, direct skin contact, and ingestion. Additionally, once released to the environment, mercury migrates to waterways where bacteria methylate the metal to form methyl mercury, which is more toxic and may enter the food chain more rapidly.

The Chemical and Laboratory Safety Committee (CLSC) strongly believes the University Community has a clear responsibility to protect human health and the environment. In an effort to demonstrate leadership in the protection of human health and the environment, the CLSC hereby establishes policy that all faculty, staff, and students eliminate the use or storage of mercury, mercury compounds, and mercury devices where practicable as soon as feasible.