

Roundtable Discussion on Mercury Spill Guidance & Addressing Consumer/Homeowner Questions & Concerns about Mercury in Products in Households & How to Manage them Properly

Table 1:

Industrial / Large Spills

- Bring in Human Services- schools, pets, belongings
- Panic factor- explain to public- local/state board of health
- Outreach in nearby schools- educate kids in schools & school officials
- Language- multiple languages
- Who is doing spills?
- Who's cleaning up?
- How to clean up

Table 2:

Outside Contractor

- Contact state agency to get advice on reputable contractors
- *Guidance on selecting a contractor and questions to ask
- Criteria for questions for contractors
- Develop work plan & share look at & review for key issues
 - Protective equipment
 - Appropriate equipment
- Ultimate use of facility- key

Table 3:

Trained Personnel

- Explain proper protocol to use equipment
- Knowledge of OSHA requirements for responders
- Mercury Cleanup
 - 40 hr. Hazwoper
 - training
 - refresher
- DOT training- proper shipper

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- Notice on combustibility of zinc powder
- “swifters” work in homes
- turn off all fans / electronic equipment
- ATSDR- fact sheet on Hg

Table 4:

Dealing with the Press:

- Need someone from health agency to talk about Hg health facts with press
- Answer succinctly
- Don't lie
- Use press to educate public- post spill
- After spill- do fever thermometer exchange
- Sent flyers home through kids at school- talk to school personnel first- educate first!