

## TOWN OF GORHAM

### Homeowners are included in Mercury Disposal Ban

Effective January 1, 2008, RSA 149-M:58 bans the disposal of all products containing intentionally-added mercury in landfills, transfer stations and incinerators, regardless of the amount of mercury they contain.

Homeowners and businesses alike are affected by the ban on such items as **thermometers, thermostats, electrical switches, mercury button cell batteries and fluorescent light bulbs, including compact fluorescent bulbs**. Because mercury is a highly toxic chemical that does not break down, and accumulates in our bodies over time, it should not be discharged to the environment.

There are several legal disposal options for homeowners. Homeowners can bring spent bulbs and mercury-containing products to the Public Works Garage or to Androscoggin Valley Regional Refuse Disposal District (AVRRDD). Residents can obtain a permit to bring these items to AVRRDD at the Public Works Garage. Items may also be brought to AVRRDD on Household Hazardous Waste day which is generally the first Saturday in June. There is no cost for disposal of these items.

Homeowners and small businesses may also take up to six (6) fluorescent lamps to participating TrueValue and Ace Hardware stores where the lamps will be accepted and recycled at no cost to the consumer.

For more information visit the NH Pollution Prevention Program website at [www.des.nh.gov/nhppp/Mercury/Hgproducts.asp](http://www.des.nh.gov/nhppp/Mercury/Hgproducts.asp). Additionally, residents may contact the Public Works Department at 466-5025.