

Tryon Businesses Voluntarily Pledge to Reduce Mercury

On March 6 town officials visited 14 businesses in Tryon and asked for their voluntary pledge to help reduce mercury in the environment.

To date 13 businesses have signed the “Silver Star” pledge. The pledge commitments include the following actions: 1) discontinue the purchase and sales of mercury-containing equipment and products where other non-hazardous alternatives are available, 2) replace existing mercury devices with non-hazardous devices whenever possible, 3) properly manage mercury-containing wastes by collecting them for proper disposal, preferably recycling, and avoiding incineration, and 4) educate employees about sources of mercury and proper mercury disposal.

Tryon officials wish to formally recognize and thank these businesses for their commitment and support in helping reduce mercury. Business will be receiving “Silver Star” pledge certificates signed by the Secretary of the NC Dept of Environment and Natural Resource.

Tryon Businesses Committing to the “Silver Star” Pledge to Reduce Mercury

Bull’s Jewelers
Cowan’s Hardware
Elite Comfort Services (formerly
McGuinn’s Heating and Air)
Frederick’s Design Studio
Laurellyn Medical Group
McCall and McCall, DDS, PA
Raymond F. Meyers, DMD, PA
Owen’s Pharmacy
Skee’s Automotive Service, Inc.
Stotts Ford, Inc.
Tipton Care Facilities
Tryon Pharmacy
White Oak Manor

The business pledge is just one method of an intergrated approach to town is taking to address mercury levels in the town’s wastewater. Other efforts include: working closely with industrial dischargers, using cleaner wastewater sampling techniques, instituting more monitoring, improving treatment plant operation, holding a mercury collection day, public education, and others.

For more information on signing up to the Silver Star Pledge, call Julie Woolsey, NC Division of Pollution Prevention at 800-763-0136