



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## April's Mercury Bounty a Big Success – Still Time! (660 Items Received to Date!)

### Lancaster, PA (April 23, 2009)

Residents still have until April 30<sup>th</sup> to receive a \$5 gift card to Lowe's and a digital thermometer for each mercury thermometer or thermostat they deliver to the Resource Recovery Facility (RRF) in Bainbridge or the Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Facility in Lancaster.

Since the beginning of the month, residents have delivered:

- 435 mercury thermometers for personal use
- 125 mercury thermostats
- 19 large mercury thermometers
- 80 mercury tubes
- 35 pounds of elemental mercury

"LCSWMA is concerned about the environmental dangers concentrated mercury poses and with our free, drive-through Household Hazardous Waste facility we are striving to remove this material from Lancaster County homes. Partnering with Covanta in this manner has provided another opportunity to educate residents about the household hazardous waste service we provide." said Jim Warner, LCSWMA's Executive Director.

The Authority has been providing digital thermometers in exchange for mercury-containing devices for several years. Covanta Lancaster, Inc., the operator of the RRF, purchased the gift cards for distribution this month to encourage the proper handling and disposal of these mercury-containing devices.

Mercury thermometers and thermostats will be accepted from residents at the RRF scalehouse from 6:30 am to 4 pm and on Saturdays from 7 am to 11 am. **Absolutely no other household hazardous waste material will be accepted at the RRF.**

In addition to mercury thermometers and thermostats, the HHW regularly accepts elemental mercury, fluorescent bulbs (including compact bulbs), computers, televisions, cell phones, batteries, paints, cleaners and more. Go to [www.lcswma.org](http://www.lcswma.org) for a list of all the materials accepted at the HHW. The drive-through HHW facility is open Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4 pm and on Saturdays from 8 am to 12 pm.

**This program is for residential households only.** Businesses can find information on the proper handling of mercury-containing devices at [www.depweb.state.pa.us](http://www.depweb.state.pa.us).

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### **About Covanta Lancaster, Inc.**

Covanta Lancaster, Inc. operates the Lancaster County Resource Recovery Facility, located on the banks of the Susquehanna River, began commercial operation in May 1991. The facility processes 1,200 tons-per-day of solid waste, which generates 35.7 megawatts of renewable energy. The energy is sold to Metropolitan Edison. The facility is a "zero discharge" facility, which means that all the wastewater generated on-site is treated and reused in the waste management process. The facility also uses secondary sewage treatment effluent from a nearby treatment plant for all of its process water. As part of the facility, there is also a public drop-off center where residents can bring non-hazardous household items for disposal. For further information on Covanta Lancaster, Inc., please visit the website [www.covantaholding.com](http://www.covantaholding.com).

### **About Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority**

LCSWMA is recognized throughout North America as a leader in the field of solid waste management. LCSWMA operates an integrated solid waste management system which primarily serves Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. The system handles approximately 575,000 tons of waste per year and consists of:

- A new 2,200 tons per day transfer station
- A new drive-through permanent household hazardous waste facility
- A 36 megawatt, 1,200 tons per day mass burn waste-to-energy (WTE) facility
- A 2,000 tons per day sanitary landfill
- A 3.2 megawatt landfill gas-to-energy plant (LFGTE) - owned and operated by PPL
- A county-wide recycling program that has achieved a 37% recycling rate



The LCSWMA LFGTE and WTE facilities generate enough renewable energy from waste to power 1 out of 6 homes in Lancaster County. For further information on the Lancaster County Solid Waste Management Authority, please visit the website [www.lcswma.org](http://www.lcswma.org).