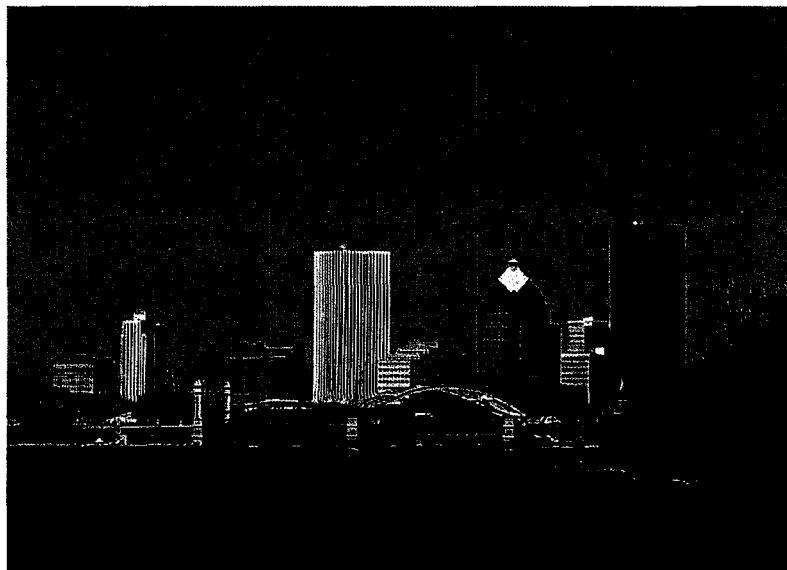


Prevent Mercury Pollution

Best Management Practices for
Amalgam Handling and
Recycling at Dental Facilities



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This manual was prepared by the Monroe County Department of Environmental Services.
August 2008

Information provided in this manual was referenced from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's website – *A Guide For Managing Mercury and Amalgam Wastes*

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshh/redrecy/mercbmp.htm>

Section I – Introduction



This booklet has been developed to enlist your help in a state-wide effort to manage dental amalgam waste so as to protect the environment from mercury. The best management practices and New York State laws outlined in this booklet are designed to help protect and restore our state's rivers and lakes with simple changes in the way amalgam waste is handled and disposed of at your office. The best management practices and laws have shown to be effective in keeping mercury in dental amalgam out of the

environment. Share this booklet with your staff. When new employees join your staff, make sure they read this booklet also. You and your staff together can evaluate your current practices and where appropriate, adopt new practices to help protect the environment.

How Mercury in Dental Amalgam Can Get Into the Environment

There are many ways that mercury in dental amalgam can get into the environment:

- Amalgam particles that are rinsed down drains or that escape poorly maintained chair-side traps and vacuum pump filters travel through the sewer collection system to the wastewater treatment plant. From there mercury in the amalgam may enter the environment in one of the following ways: (1) It may be released directly to a waterway; (2) It may be released to the air if the treatment plant sludge is incinerated and then re-deposited to the ground or a waterway; (3) It may be released to soil if treatment plant sludge is land spread.
- If a dental practice is connected to a septic system, amalgam particles become part of the sludge in the septic tank which is eventually pumped out and transported to a wastewater treatment plant or land spread. Mercury in the amalgam can be released directly to a waterway, incinerated, or land spread.
- Placing an item that contains amalgam particles in with biohazard waste allows mercury from the amalgam to be released into the air if the biohazard waste is incinerated. The volatilized mercury is then re-deposited to the ground or a waterway.
- If items that contain amalgam particles are discarded with the ordinary trash, there is the potential for mercury in the amalgam to dissolve into and contaminate the landfill leachate when the trash is placed in a landfill. The contaminated leachate is then sent to the local wastewater treatment plant where it is treated. Mercury in the amalgam will be released directly to a waterway, incinerated, or land spread.
- In an older dental clinic, pure bulk elemental mercury and amalgam waste from past practices may have settled in sink traps. The mercury is gradually released into wastewater for many years after the use of these materials.

Section II - Types of Mercury Waste

- **Amalgam Sludge** is the mixture of liquid and solid material cleaned from vacuum pump filters or other amalgam capture devices (ex. amalgam separator).
- **Bulk Elemental Mercury** is leftover bulk mercury from past dental practices/procedures.
 - The use or possession of bulk elemental mercury in the practice of dentistry **is prohibited** in a dental facility unless such elemental mercury is contained in appropriate pre-encapsulated capsules specifically designed for the mixing of dental amalgam (NYS Law).
 - Bulk elemental mercury should **never** be poured down the drain, thrown in the garbage or disposed with your biohazard waste.
 - All bulk elemental mercury must be recycled in accordance with NYS Law.
- **Chair-side Traps** capture amalgam waste during amalgam placement or removal procedures (Traps from dental units dedicated strictly to hygiene may be placed in with regular garbage.)
- **Contact Amalgam** is amalgam that has been in contact with the patient. Examples are extracted teeth with amalgam restorations or amalgam captured by chair-side traps, vacuum filters or screens.
- **Empty Amalgam Capsules** are the containers leftover from pre-encapsulated dental amalgam. These capsules **must** be recycled by NYS law.
- **Non-contact Amalgam (Scrap)** is excess mix leftover at the end of a dental procedure.
- **Vacuum Pump Filters** or traps contain amalgam sludge and water. Some recyclers will accept whole filters. Others will require special handling of this material.

In accordance with NYS Law, all types of amalgam waste listed above must ultimately be sent to a recycler for recycling.



Section III - Amalgam Handling and Treatment

Amalgam Separators

New York State regulations now require the installation and use of dental amalgam separators for new dental facilities starting operations after May 12, 2006. Dental facilities operating prior to May 12, 2006 are allowed a two year phase in period (by May 12, 2008) to install and maintain a dental amalgam separator(s). Refer to Section IX of this manual for more information on New York State regulations related to amalgam separators and handling of dental amalgam waste.

Important: Dental facilities that discharge their wastewater to a sewage treatment works must provide written notification by submitting a *Notice of Dental Amalgam Separator Installation* form to the appropriate sewage treatment works or sewer authority. This form is included at the back of this manual.

- Dental amalgam separators will remove the maximum amount of amalgam waste and are much more efficient in removing amalgam from the dental wastewater than filters and traps used in chair-side dental units and vacuum lines.
- An amalgam separator must be installed in dental facilities where dental amalgam is applied, altered, maintained, removed, disposed, generated or where elemental mercury is used or possessed by licensed dentists.
- An amalgam separator must treat all dental facility waters likely to come into contact with dental amalgam waste prior to discharge. This includes wastewater from chair-side water collection units as well as sinks and drains.
- The only dental facilities not required to install an amalgam separator are specialties where orthodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics and oral and maxillofacial surgery are exclusively performed.

The following criteria will help you select the right system for your facility:

- The system must be effective and the manufacturer must be able to prove that the system can remove the amalgam from the wastewater regardless of particle size. **An amalgam separator placed into service after May 12, 2006 must achieve 99 percent removal efficiency (NYS Law).**
- The separator must be properly sized for the volume and flow of the dental facility amalgam wastewater in accordance with the manufacturer's specifications and recommendations.
- Available space for the installation and subsequent access to that space for equipment replacement and maintenance should be considered.
- There should be no compromise in suction power of the vacuum system.
- Simplicity of design is a plus. The dentist or staff should not have to perform a series of manual operations or be required to handle and change filters.
- **The captured amalgam must be recycled.** Consider a company that both sells the system and arranges for the recycling of the captured amalgam. You should, at minimum, request information from the company that sold you the unit about how to assure that the captured amalgam is recycled.
- The unit should operate quietly, have simplicity in design to reduce the chance of something going wrong and be reasonably priced in both short and long term costs (including maintenance and parts replacement).

Amalgam Capsule Handling

- Stock your amalgam material in a variety of capsule sizes in order to best select the right amount of material for a particular restoration. This will minimize waste.
- Collect and store the entire contents of broken or unusable capsules with your non-contact scrap amalgam.
- Although empty dental amalgam capsules contain no visible amalgam materials, they **must** be recycled with your non-contact amalgam (NYS Law).
- If there is a spill of mercury from a capsule, contain it and clean it up immediately. Keep mercury spill clean-up materials on hand and train a staff member in proper spill clean-up. Inexpensive mercury clean-up materials are available from science and safety equipment suppliers. Some suppliers are listed in Section VIII.
- Use amalgam substitutes where they are appropriate and economically feasible.

Amalgam Waste Storage

- All dental amalgam wastes should be collected and stored in **properly labeled, air-tight, leak-proof, widemouth, structurally sound containers.**
- **Contact** and **non-contact** amalgam should be stored in separate, appropriately labeled containers.
- Most recyclers prefer that **contact** amalgam be transported for recycling in a disinfectant. The liquid is visual evidence that the **contact** amalgam has been disinfected. **Do not** use heat or bleach/chlorine based disinfectants to disinfect **contact** amalgam.
- **Non-contact** amalgam in a tightly sealed container can be stored and transported dry.

Chair-Side Trap and Vacuum Filter Handling

The control of waste dental amalgam includes proper management of the chair-side traps and vacuum pump filters used in your office vacuum system. Disposable amalgam traps are preferable to reusable traps because of the difficulty in effectively removing amalgam particles from the reusable trap without spilling the particles into the drain or garbage. Chair-side traps and vacuum pump filters **should not** be placed in the regular garbage or with biohazard waste. They **must** be sent for recycling (NYS Law).

- Never rinse scrap amalgam down the drain.**
- Never place scrap amalgam in the red biohazard bag.**
- Never place scrap amalgam in the trash.**
- Never place scrap amalgam in the sharps container.**
- Never place extracted teeth with amalgam restorations in the red biohazard bag. They should be placed in your contact amalgam container that will be sent for recycling.**

Recommended Techniques For Collecting Amalgam From Chair-side Traps

Precautions should be taken, such as wearing nitrile gloves, safety glasses and a mask, when handling the chair-side trap. These traps should be changed as often as necessary.

- Flush the vacuum system with disinfecting line solution before changing the chair-side trap. **Never** use a bleach/chlorine based line cleanser since bleach/chlorine can dissolve mercury from amalgam particles and release the mercury into your wastewater.
- The following is a list of non-bleach/non-chlorine line cleaners which will minimize amalgam dissolution:
 - Biocide (Biotrol International)
 - DRNA Vac (Dental Recycling North American, Inc.)
 - Fresh-Vac (Huntington)
 - Green and Clean (Metasys)
 - ProE-Vac (Cottrell Ltd.)
 - Pure-Vac (Sultan Chemists Inc.)
 - Stay Clean (Apollo Dental Products)
 - Vacusol Ultra (Biotrol International)
 - Vacuum Clean (Palmero Health Care)
 - Patterson Brand Concentrated Ultrasonic Cleaner/Disinfectant Solution (Patterson Dental Supply, Inc.)
 - BirexSe (Biotrol International)
 - Cavicide (Metrex Research Corp.)
 - E-Vac (L&R Manufacturing Co.)
 - GC Spray-Cide (GC America Inc.)
 - Microstat 2 (Septodont USA)
 - Pure-Vac (Sultan Chemists Inc.)
 - SRG Evacuation (Icon Labs)
 - Turbo-Vac (Pinnacle Products)

Note: The above list does not imply an endorsement of any company. The list is not intended to be all-inclusive, but is provided for informational purposes only.

- **For Reusable Chair-side Traps:**
 - Open the chair-side unit to expose the trap.
 - Remove non-amalgam fragments such as cement from the trap and discard in the garbage.
 - Remove all visible amalgam by tapping the contents into a properly labeled container and close the cover tightly.
 - If the trap is visibly clean it can be reused. **A heavily contaminated trap should always be recycled.**
- **For Disposable Chair-side Traps:**
 - Open the chair-side unit to expose the trap.
 - Remove the chair-side trap and place it in a properly labeled container for recycling and close the cover tightly.

- For **Vacuum Pump Filters** (by the central suction pump)
- Replace vacuum pump filters regularly as recommended by the equipment manufacturer.
 - Remove the filter. While holding it over a tray or other container that can catch spills, decant as much liquid as possible without losing visible amalgam. The decanted, amalgam-free liquid can be rinsed down the drain.
 - Put the lid on the filter and place it in the box in which it was originally shipped. When the box is full, **the filters must be recycled**. Be sure to check with your amalgam recycler to ensure that they will take these filters.
 - Do not dispose of used vacuum pump filters in the sharps container, as biohazard waste, or in the trash.

Section IV - Additional Sources of Mercury in Dental Facilities

There are various types of equipment within a dental facility that may contain elemental mercury. Some thermometers and blood pressure units contain elemental mercury as well as electrical equipment with switches, relays or thermostats. Consider replacing mercury containing equipment with non-mercury containing alternatives. The mercury containing items **must** be sent for recycling when replaced.

Plumbing Replacement and Repairs

When you have your amalgam separator installed or other plumbing related work done, it may be a good time to replace or clean sink traps. Mercury from past practices often settles at low points such as sink traps and sumps. The slow dissolution of the mercury in a sink trap or sump can release mercury into the wastewater for years after past disposal practices have been corrected. You should advise your plumber that whenever plumbing parts are removed or cleaned, caution should be taken to avoid spilling the contents in case amalgam or mercury are present. Pour and brush out the sludge and handle it as you would handle contact amalgam. The plumbing parts can be put back in place or recycled.

Renovations

If you have an older dental facility, alert renovators to the possibility of mercury contamination in carpets, in floor cracks, behind moldings and other areas where bulk mercury may have been used, or where amalgam capsules may have been spilled. Call your county health department, district office of the New York State Department of Health, or regional office of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation if you have questions about disposal of renovation debris. The Monroe County Household Hazardous Waste Facility is capable of disposing of some renovation debris contaminated with mercury depending on the size and quantity of contaminated renovation debris.

Section V - Steps for Recycling Amalgam Waste

- Stock amalgam capsules in a variety of sizes to minimize the amount of amalgam waste generated.
- Use personal protective equipment such as nitrile gloves, safety glasses and a mask when handling amalgam waste. The waste may be mixed with bodily fluids such as saliva or other potentially infectious material.
- Contact an amalgam waste recycler about any special requirements for collecting, storing and transporting amalgam waste. All types of amalgam waste can be recycled through the Monroe County Household Hazardous Waste Facility or an Amalgam Waste Recycler listed in Section VI.
- Store amalgam waste in accordance with NYS Law: which includes storing amalgam in properly labeled, air-tight, leak-proof and structurally sound containers.

Questions to Ask Your Amalgam Waste Recycler

It is important to remember that NYS Law requires all dental amalgam waste and elemental mercury generated at a dental facility be sent for mercury recycling. Written or electronic certification from the recycler or collection service stating that your amalgam waste was sent for recycling is also required by NYS law. Contact a recycler or collection service before recovering amalgam waste. There are usually specific handling and packaging instructions the recycler has.

Ask Your Recycler:

- What kind of amalgam waste do you accept?
- Do your services include pick-up of amalgam waste from dental offices? If not, how should amalgam waste be shipped to you?
- Do you provide packaging for storage, pick-up or shipping of amalgam waste? If not, how should waste be packaged?
- What type of amalgam wastes can be packaged together?
- Do you accept whole chair-side traps and vacuum filters?
- Is disinfection required for amalgam waste?
- How much do your services cost?
- Do you pay for amalgam scrap?
- Do you accept extracted teeth with amalgam restorations?
- Does your company have an EPA or applicable state license?
- Does the company provide the proper certification of recycling forms required by NYS law?

Section VI - Amalgam Waste Recycling Companies

Amalgaway Mail Disposal Service

3672 East Raymond Street
Indianapolis, IN 46203
1-800-267-1467
<http://www.amalgaway.com/>

Bethlehem Apparatus Company

890 Front St.
P.O. Box Y
Hellertown, PA 18055
1-610-838-7034
<http://www.bethlehemapparatus.com/>

Dental Recycling North America, Inc.

P.O. Box 1069
Hackensack, NJ 07601
1-800-360-1001
<http://www.drna.com/>

Doral Refining Corporation

533 Atlantic Ave
Freeport, NY 11520
1-800-645-2794
<http://www.doralcorp.com/>

Garfield Refining

810 East Cayuga
Philadelphia, PA 19124-3892
800-523-0968
<http://www.garfieldrefining.com/>

Maguire & Strickland Refining, Inc.

1290 81st Ave. NE
Minneapolis, MN 55432
1-800-486-2858
<http://www.maguireref.com/>

Mercury Waste Solutions, Inc.

21211 Durand Ave.
Union Grove, WI 53182-9711
1-800-741-3343
<http://www.mwsi.com/>

Safety Kleen

1525 West Henrietta Road
Avon, NY 14414
585-226-2411
<http://www.safety-kleen.com/>

Note: The above list does not imply an endorsement of any company. Each user is responsible for verifying vendor information. The list is not intended to be all-inclusive, but is provided for informational purposes only.

Monroe County can properly dispose of various types of hazardous waste generated at dental facilities through our Household Hazardous Waste Facility (HHWF). Most dental facilities are classified as CESQGs (Conditional Exempt Small Quantity Generators). The County's permit to operate the HHWF is issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and it allows acceptance of hazardous waste from CESQGs. The HHWF can accept: all types of amalgam waste, fixer, developer and lead foil. There is a fee associated with the disposal of the material. Visit our website for more information:

www.monroecounty.gov/des-cesqg.php

Section VII - Amalgam Separator Equipment Vendors

Note: The following is not a complete list or an endorsement of any particular product.

Effective May 12, 2006, amalgam separators installed after May 12, 2006, must achieve a minimum 99% removal efficiency of dental amalgam.

AB Dental Trends (Rasch 890 System)

211 Grover Street
Lynden, WA 98264
1-360-354-4722
<http://www.amalgamseparation.com/>

American Dental Accessories, Inc.

7310 Oxford Street
Minneapolis, MN 55426
1-800-331-7993
<http://www.amerdental.com/>

Air Techniques, Inc.

1295 Walt Whitman Road
Melville, New York 11747
1-800-AIR TECH (247-8324)
<http://www.airtechniques.com/>

SolmeteX*

50 Bearfoot Road
Northborough, MA 01532
1-800-216-5505
<http://www.solmetex.com/index.html>

***SolmeteX** is NYS Dental Association's endorsed carrier for amalgam recycling.

Section VIII - Providers of Mercury Spill Clean-up Products

Fisher Scientific

52 Fadem Road
Springfield, NJ 07081
800-766-7000
<http://www.fishersci.com/>

Lab Safety Supply, Inc

P.O. Box 1368
Janesville, WI 53547-1368
1-800-356-0783
<http://www.labsafety.com/>

VWR Scientific Products

1310 Goshen Parkway
West Chester, PA 19380
1-800-932-5000
<http://www.vwrsp.com/>



Note: The provision of these names does not imply an endorsement, nor is it intended to be all-inclusive. Each user is responsible for verifying vendor information. The list is provided for informational purposes only.

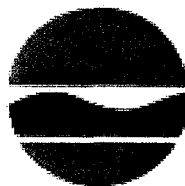
Section IX - New York State Regulations on Management and Disposal of Dental Amalgam Waste - Reference

Amalgam Separator Regulations Effective May 12, 2006

- Facilities exclusively practicing: Orthodontics, Periodontics, Prosthodontics and Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery **are not required** to install an amalgam separator.
- All dental facility waters likely to come into contact with dental amalgam waste must be treated prior to discharge by an ISO 11143 certified amalgam separator with a minimum of 99% removal efficiency by weight.
- Amalgam separators in service at dental facilities prior to 5/12/2006 must be ISO 11143 certified with a minimum removal efficiency of 95% by weight.
- Large dental facilities (50 or more chairs) must meet the above ISO 11143 standards that are applicable but are not required to be ISO certified*.
 - *If it is not ISO certified then a person from a firm licensed to practice professional engineering in NY must certify its removal efficiency.
- All amalgam separators must be properly sized for the facility according to the manufacturer's specifications. The maximum flow rate through the amalgam separator must not exceed the maximum flow rate that the separator passed in meeting the ISO standards.
- **Separator Installation:**
 - For all new facilities beginning operation after 5/12/2006, the amalgam separator must be installed prior to the beginning of operation.
 - Any facility operating prior to 5/12/2006, the amalgam separator must be installed no later than 5/12/2008.
 - The separator must be installed, operated and maintained in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. The separator must also be installed in accordance with applicable state and local building code requirements.

Dental Amalgam Waste: Storage & Recycling Effective May 12, 2006

- **Dental Amalgam Waste Storage:**
 - **All** dental amalgam waste must be collected and stored in structurally sound, air-tight and leak-proof containers with a label informing the type of amalgam waste (contact or non-contact) and the date amalgam waste was initially placed in the container.
 - The containers holding amalgam waste must be tightly closed except when adding or removing amalgam waste and the containers **cannot** be stored at the dental facility more than one year from the date waste was initially placed in the container.
- **Recycling of Dental Amalgam Waste and Elemental Mercury:**
 - **All** dental amalgam waste and elemental mercury generated by the dental facility **must** be sent for mercury recycling.
 - Written or electronic certification must be obtained from the collection service or recycler documenting:
 1. Name and address of collection service.
 2. Amount, by weight, of dental amalgam waste and/or elemental mercury collected and the date it was collected.
 3. Name and address of the facility where the dental amalgam and elemental mercury will ultimately be recycled and certification that the mercury contained in the waste was destined for recycling



New York State
Department of
Environmental
Conservation

New York State Regulations on Management and Disposal Of Dental Amalgam Waste - Reference

Record Keeping and Inspection Effective May 12, 2006

- Records must be maintained at the dental facility documenting:
 1. Type of amalgam separator(s) installed, manufacturer's model number, unit specifications, date the unit was placed in service and number of chair units serviced by the separator;
 2. A description of all maintenance performed on the amalgam separator(s) and the date of completion of such maintenance;
 3. The amount, by weight, of dental amalgam waste sent for recycling of mercury, on an annual basis; and
 4. Copies of the correspondence required under the "Recycling of Dental Amalgam Waste and Elemental Mercury" section.
- The records required to be saved above, #1, must be maintained as long as the amalgam separator is in use at the dental facility. The records required to be saved above, #2, #3 & #4 must be maintained for a minimum of three years.
- **Written notification when an amalgam separator is installed must be provided to the sewage treatment works or sewer authority that the dental office wastewater discharge is tributary to, if applicable. Such notification must be submitted no later than 30 days following the applicable deadline, May 12, 2008.**
The required Notice of Dental Amalgam Separator Installation form is attached to the end of this manual.
- The records specified above, #1, #2, #3 & #4, and the amalgam separator(s) and any related equipment must be readily available for inspection by the department, or its authorized representative, upon written or verbal request.

Prohibitions Effective May 12, 2006

- The use or possession of elemental mercury in the practice of dentistry is prohibited in a dental facility unless such elemental mercury is contained in appropriate pre-encapsulated capsules specifically designed for the mixing of dental amalgam.
- Elemental mercury must not be rinsed down the drain, disposed with municipal solid waste or disposed as regulated solid waste.
- Chair-side traps, screens, vacuum pump filters or other amalgam collection devices containing dental amalgam must not be rinsed over drains or sinks that are not connected to an amalgam separator.
- Dental amalgam waste must not be managed as a regulated medical (biohazard) waste and must not be disposed of in containers destined for treatment or disposal as regulated medical waste.
- Dental amalgam waste and collection equipment must not be disinfected by any method that utilizes heat.
- Dental amalgam waste must not be disposed of as municipal solid waste.

Visit the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's website for the complete list of regulations along with other useful information on handling and recycling of dental amalgam waste.

<http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshh/redrecy/mercdent.htm>

Section X - Contacts for Applicable Regulations

NYSDEC, Region 8 (Counties of Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Stueben, Wayne and Yates)
Division of Water
6274 East Avon-Lima Road
Avon, NY 14414
585-226-2466
www.dec.ny.gov/about/617.html

NYSDEC, Region 7 (County of Cayuga)
Division of Water
615 Erie Blvd. West
Syracuse, NY 13204-2400
1-315-426-7400
www.dec.ny.gov/about/615.html

Cayuga County
Department of Health and Human Services
160 Genesee Street
Auburn, NY 13021
1-315-253-1393
www.cayugacounty.us/hhs/index.html

Livingston County
Livingston County Water and Sewer Authority
1997 D'Angelo Drive
Lakeville, NY 14480
585-346-3523
www.colivingston.state.ny.us/lcwsa.htm

Monroe County
Industrial Waste Control Section
Monroe County Department of Environmental Services
444 East Henrietta Road
Rochester, NY 14620
585-753-7600
Fax = 585-324-1213
www.monroecounty.gov/des-industrialwaste.php

Dental Facilities within Monroe County who are connected to Monroe County Pure Water's Sewer Collection System and required to submit a Notice of Dental Amalgam Separator Installation form can mail or fax their form(s) to the above address.

Ontario County
Department of Public Works
1st Floor, Mezzanine
20 Ontario Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424
585-396-4000/585-396-4447
www.co.ontario.ny.us/public_works/

Seneca County
Department of Environmental Health
Seneca County Health Building
31 Thurber Drive
Waterloo, NY 13165
1-315-539-4745
www.co.seneca.ny.us/dpt-comserv-environment-health.php

Stueben County
Contact NYSDEC Region 8 or the local municipality where the dental office is located.

Wayne County
Contact NYSDEC Region 8 or the local municipality where the dental office is located.

Yates County
Contact NYSDEC Region 8 or the local municipality where the dental office is located.





Notice Of Dental Amalgam Separator Installation (May 2006)

A. Instructions

Purpose and Use of this Form: State regulation requires that all dental facility waters likely to come into contact with amalgam waste must be treated prior to discharge by an amalgam separator meeting certain specifications. If the discharge is to a sewage treatment works, written notification must be provided to the appropriate sewage treatment works or sewer authority.

This form is intended to provide a consistent format for dentists to satisfy this one-time reporting requirement. Follow-up reporting by dentists is only required when new separators are placed in service. Dentists may complete and submit a copy of this form to satisfy the reporting requirement. Alternatively, dentists may use another format which is consistent with the requirements specified in 6NYCRR 374-4.

If the discharge is not to a sewage treatment works, e.g. if the wastewater is discharged to an on-site septic tank/leachfield, then notification of separator installation is not required by this regulation. Please note that this form is not a permit and that the dental facility owner/operator is responsible for compliance with all other federal, state, and local regulations.

Due Dates: **For dental facilities operating on May 12, 2006** - The amalgam separator(s) must be placed in service no later than May 12, 2008 and notification must be submitted no later than June 11, 2008. **For dental facilities that begin operations after May 12, 2006** - The amalgam separator(s) must be placed in service prior to beginning operation and notification must be submitted no later than 30 days following first operation. **Replacement of separators** - If an amalgam separator fails or is otherwise taken out of service then there may be no discharge from the affected portion of the facility until the separator is replaced. Notification for replacement separators must be submitted no later than 30 days following their installation.

Form Submission: All sections must be completed and submitted to the sewage treatment works or sewer authority that the dental wastewater is tributary to. Failure to install acceptable separators or to provide the required notification by the applicable due dates will result in noncompliance with the regulation and possible enforcement action. Please maintain a completed copy of this form with your records. **Please do not submit a copy of this form to NYSDEC unless directed to do so by NYSDEC staff.**

If you are unsure if your discharge is to a sewage treatment works or who to send the notification to, search the telephone book blue pages for the municipality (city/town/village/county) where the dental facility is located under headings such as "Environment", "Public Utilities", "Sanitation", "Sewer", or "Water Pollution Control". Call them and based on your location their staff should be able to assist you.

Additional Information: Please note that there are also other regulatory requirements applicable to dentists including, but not limited to: dental amalgam waste storage; recycling of dental amalgam waste and elemental mercury; record keeping and inspection; and, prohibitions on certain activities. A copy of this form, the dental amalgam regulations, and general information on mercury are available on the NYSDEC website at www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dow/mercury.html.

B. Reason For Submission

- Notification for a dental facility operating on May 12, 2006
- Notification for a dental facility that began operating after May 12, 2006

Specify date that dental facility operation began _____

Name of applicable sewage treatment works/sewer authority _____



Notice Of Dental Amalgam Separator Installation (May 2006)

C. Dental Facility Identification and Information

Dental Practice or Facility Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ - _____

Facility Street Address (Not P.O. Box) _____

Municipality (City/Town/Village) _____ County _____

Contact Name _____ Phone _____

Email Address _____

D. Amalgam Separator System Installation - Provide information for each separator:

| <u>Date In Service</u> | <u>Manufacturer</u> | <u>Model Name/Number</u> | <u>Rated % Removal</u> | <u>Max Rated Flow (gpm)</u> | <u># of Dental Chairs Served</u> |
|------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

Total number of separators at this facility _____ Total number of dental chairs at this facility _____

E. Certification

This practice/facility has installed an appropriate amalgam separator(s). Separator design, installation, maintenance, and amalgam recycling is and will continue to be in accordance with applicable regulations. I certify under penalty of law that this document, and any attachments, was prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Owner/Operator Name (please print or type) _____

Owner/Operator Signature _____

Date _____