

DENTAL BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL

DO

AMALGAM

- Do use precapsulated alloys and stock a variety of capsule sizes
- Do recycle used disposable amalgam capsules
- Do salvage, store and recycle non-contact amalgam (scrap amalgam)
- Do salvage (contact) amalgam pieces from restorations after removal and recycle the amalgam waste
- Do use chair-side traps to retain amalgam and recycle the content
- Do clean vacuum pump filters once a month or as directed by the manufacture
- Do appropriately disinfect extracted teeth that contain amalgam restorations by storing them in recycle along with the chair side trap waste container of glutaraldehyde or 10% formalin and recycle along with the chair side trap waste.
- Do recycle contents retained by the vacuum pump filter or other amalgam collection device, if they contain amalgam
- Do use line cleaners that minimize dissolution of amalgam

XRAY FIXER & DEVELOPER

- Do segregate and recycle spent fixer
- Do put developer down the drain
- Do use approved silver recovery unit
- Do contract for spent fixer recycling

LEAD FOIL & SHIELDS

DON'T

AMALGAM

- Don't use bulk mercury; don't ever pour it down the drain, in infectious waste containers (red bags) or regular garbage.
- Don't put used disposable amalgam capsules in biohazard containers, (red bags) or regular garbage
- Don't put non-contact amalgam waste in biohazard containers, infectious waste containers (red bags) or regular garbage
- Don't put contact amalgam waste in biohazard containers, infectious waste containers (red bags) or regular garbage
- Don't rinse chair-side traps containing amalgam over drains or sinks
- Don't rinse vacuum pump filters containing amalgam or other amalgam collection devices over drains or sinks
- Don't dispose of extracted teeth that contain amalgam restorations in biohazard containers, infectious waste containers (red bags) or regular garbage
- Don't flush amalgam waste down the drain or toilet
- Don't use bleach or chlorine containing cleaners to flush wastewater lines

XRAY FIXER & DEVELOPER

- Don't mix fixer and developer
- Don't pour fixer down the drain
- Don't use products to solidify x-ray fixer

LEAD FOIL & SHIELDS

- Don't give lead foil to patients to use for fishing weights

LABELING/RECORDS

- Do recycle lead foil or shields
- Do dispose as hazardous waste
- Don't assume your waste is handled correctly. Ask for a Certificate of Recycling or Disposal mix waste streams
- Don't mix waste streams

LABELING/RECORDS

- Do properly label and store your hazardous waste
- Do maintain a log of amalgam waste generation and recycling, collect and keep receipts from your recycler

If you have any questions or would like more information contact Pocatello Water Pollution Control at (208) 234-6256 or ISDA at (208) 343-7543