

American Dental Association

2010 NACWA Pretreatment Conference

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ADA American Dental Association®

ADA Policy

ADA included amalgam separators as part of the ADA Best Management Practices (“BMPs”) in October 2007.

Separators allow waste amalgam to be captured in the dental office so that the mercury may be recycled.



●BMPs

ADA BMPs

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, can amalgam waste be shipped to you?
- Do you provide packaging for storage, pick up or shipping of amalgam waste?
- If packaging is not provided, how should the waste be packaged?
- What types of waste can be packaged together?
- Do you accept whole filters from the vacuum pump for recycling?
- Is disinfection required for amalgam waste?
- How much do your services cost?
- Do you pay for clean non-contact amalgam (scrap)?
- Do you accept extracted teeth with amalgam restorations?
- Does your company have an EPA or applicable state license?
- Does the company use the proper forms required by the EPA and state agencies?
- Do your procedures comply with ANSI/ADA Specification 109: Procedures for Storing Dental Amalgam Waste and Requirements for Amalgam Waste Storage/Shipment Containers?²

Best Management Practices for Amalgam Waste

DO	DON'T
Do use precapsulated alloys and stock a variety of capsule sizes	Don't use bulk mercury
Do recycle used disposable amalgam capsules	Don't put used disposable amalgam capsules in biohazard containers, infectious waste containers (red bags) or regular garbage
Do salvage, store and recycle non-contact amalgam (scrap amalgam)	Don't put non-contact amalgam waste in biohazard containers, infectious waste containers (red bags) or regular garbage
Do salvage (contact) amalgam pieces from restorations after removal and recycle the amalgam waste	Don't put contact amalgam waste in biohazard containers, infectious waste containers (red bags) or regular garbage
Do use chair-side traps, vacuum pump filters and amalgam separators to retain amalgam and recycle their contents.	Don't rinse devices containing amalgam over drains or sinks
Do recycle teeth that contain amalgam restorations. (Note: Ask your recycler whether or not extracted teeth with amalgam restorations require disinfection)	Don't dispose of extracted teeth that contain amalgam restorations in biohazard containers, infectious waste containers (red bags), sharps containers or regular garbage
Do manage amalgam waste through recycling as much as possible	Don't flush amalgam waste down the drain or toilet
Do use line cleaners that minimize dissolution of amalgam	Don't use bleach or chlorine-containing cleaners to flush wastewater lines

¹International Standards Organization 11143:1999. Dental Equipment – Amalgam Separators.

²American Dental Association Council on Scientific Affairs. American National Standard/American Dental Association Specification No. 109. Procedures for storing dental amalgam waste and requirements for amalgam waste storage/shipment containers, 2006.

ADA Outreach Efforts

Best Management Practices for Amalgam Waste



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ADA Outreach Efforts

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ADA Promotes Voluntary Installation and Use of Amalgam Separators



The Back Story

Last year the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced plans for a "Study of a Pretreatment Requirement for Dental Offices," pointing to the possibility of a national mandate for amalgam separators. The ADA argued that a national pretreatment standard for dental offices was not necessary because dentistry was already acting voluntarily to address environmental impacts from dental amalgam. The ADA pointed out in support of its position that the use of amalgam separators is part of the ADA's Best Management Practices (BMP). The EPA agreed and concluded that a national standard was not warranted at that time. Following this, EPA proposed an agreement among EPA, ADA and National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) to further promote voluntary compliance with ADA's BMPs, including the use of amalgam separators.

Dentistry Self-Regulates

A premise of the EPA's decision not to issue a national pretreatment standard is the willingness of dentists to act voluntarily. It's important to show that we are making progress to follow the ADA's BMPs and that voluntary installations of amalgam separators are increasing.

Be Environmentally Responsible

There has been a significant shift in environmental attitudes with a greater demand for green business practices. With more than 77% of our patients practicing some form of regular recycling, they are beginning to take note as to who is environmentally responsible. Let's demonstrate that dentistry is a profession that goes above and beyond to serve our patients and protect the environment.

Visit www.ada.org/goto/amalgamseparators for more information on what the ADA is doing to maintain voluntary national compliance and learn how to find the best amalgam separator for your practice.

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March 13, 2009

ViewPoint

Amalgam separators and the dentist as community leader

By ADA Council on Dental Practice

The ADA, the Environmental Protection Agency and the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (the association for wastewater treatment plants) entered into a partnership in December 2008 to promote the ADA best management practices for amalgam waste, including the use of amalgam separators.

This presents us all with a tremendous opportunity. We dentists need to be the leaders in protecting our environment by promoting the capture and recycling of waste dental amalgam. The ADA Council on Dental Practice is taking this opportunity to urge you to help by installing an amalgam separator.

The council is the voice of the practicing dentist within our Association. Our role is to address issues that directly affect the practicing dentist. We bring to our job on the council our collective experiences in our own practices. And we have done so here on the question of amalgam separators.

Many of us use amalgam in our practices and continue to value it as a safe and durable treatment option. Almost all of us who place or remove amalgams either have already installed separators or are pledged to so. It was easy to do, they work well, and we urge all of our colleagues who

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**Palmer, Craig**

FW: Upcoming Briefing -- Payment Innovation in a Post-He...

Room: Alliance For Health Reform

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Oral Health Topics

Amalgam Waste, Best Management

Patient Version

Dentist Version

- [Overview](#)
- [Amalgam in Plumbing](#)
- [Additional Resources](#)

Overview

Less than one percent of the mercury released into the environment comes from amalgam¹, and even this amount is in the form of amalgam and not methylmercury, the form of mercury which is of particular environmental concern. However, dentistry is committed to recycling dental amalgam in all its forms.

To help in that endeavor, the ADA developed "Best Management Practices for Amalgam Waste" (BMPs), a series of amalgam waste handling and disposal practices.

They include (but are not limited to):

- Using chair side traps
- Installing amalgam separators compliant with ISO 111432²
- Using vacuum collection
- Inspecting and cleaning traps
- Recycling or using a commercial waste disposal service to dispose of the collected amalgam.

Dentists are encouraged to use BMPs to help reduce the effects of amalgam waste on the environment.

- [ADA "Best Management Practices for Amalgam Waste" \(PDF\)](#)
- [ADA Best Management Practices for Amalgam Waste 10-minute](#)

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environment, whenever feasible. When there is a need for plumbing work or other activities that might dislodge amalgam waste adhering to the inside of pipes, some simple steps can be followed to minimize potential health or environmental issues.

» [ADA Guidelines on Amalgam Accumulations in Dental Office Plumbing \(PDF\)](#)

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Additional Resources

- » [ADA "Best Management Practices for Amalgam Waste" Brochure \(PDF\)](#)
- » [ADA Promotes Voluntary Installation and Use of Amalgam Separators Flyer \(PDF/2MB\)](#)
- » [Dental Amalgam Separators in the Professional Product Review \(PDF\)](#)
- » [Study on the effect of ADA's Best Management Practices \(PDF\)](#)
- » [A-Z Topics: Amalgam Separators](#)
- » [ADA Statement on Dental Amalgam](#)
- » [Dental Mercury Hygiene Recommendations \(November 2003\)](#)
- » [Directory of Amalgam Recyclers \(PDF\)](#)
- » [Study of Dental Amalgam in Wastewater Summary \(PDF\)](#)
[Full text version \(PDF\)](#)
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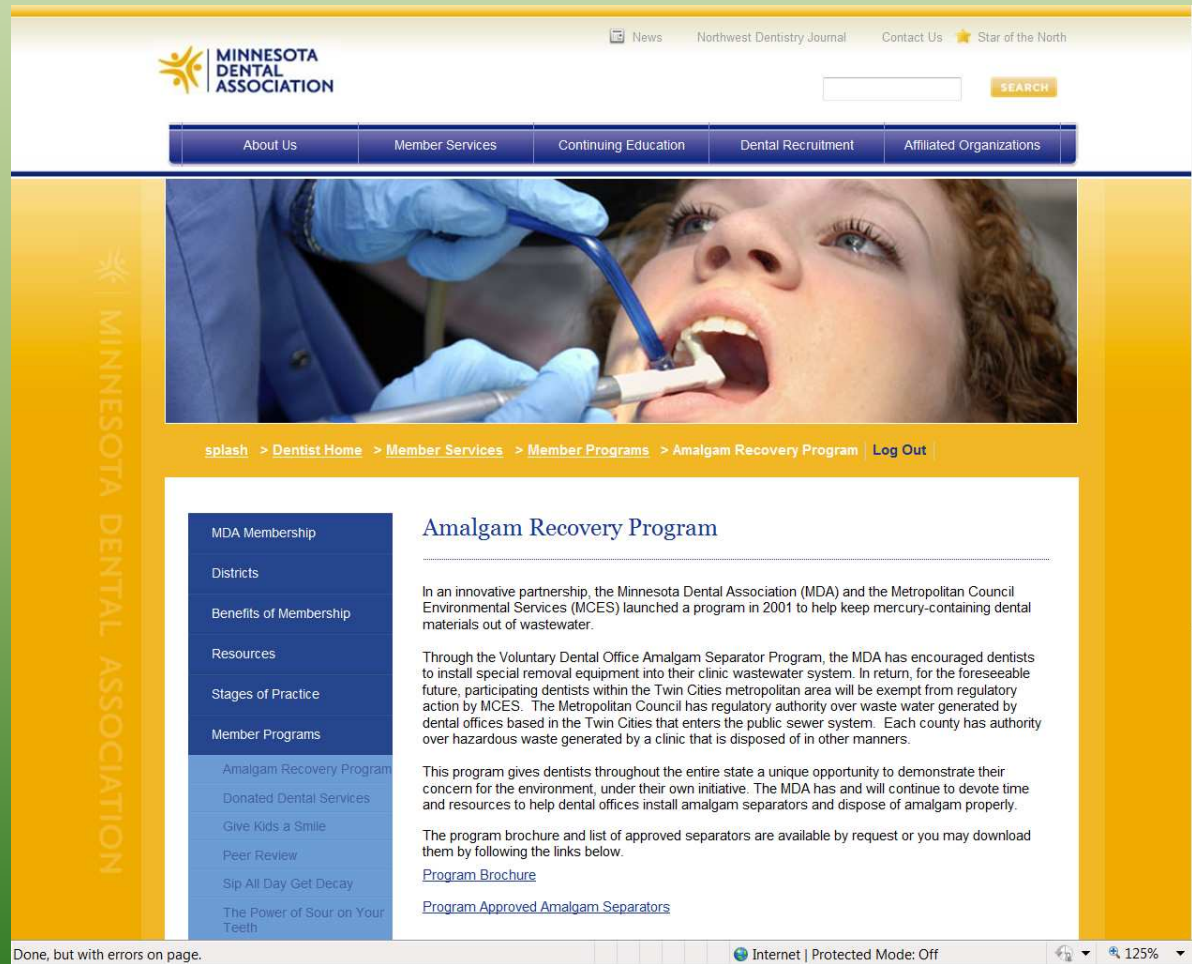
Module Overview

- Dental Wastestream Characteristics
- Selection Factors
- Who should install a unit?
- Space and Utility Requirements
- Regulatory Issues
- Installation Checklist/Guidelines
- Issues Encountered with Various Field Installations
- Maintenance BMPs

ADA/NACWA/EPA MOU

- A Baseline
- Our Likely Goal
- Possible EPA Recognition Program

Minnesota



Missouri



best management practices

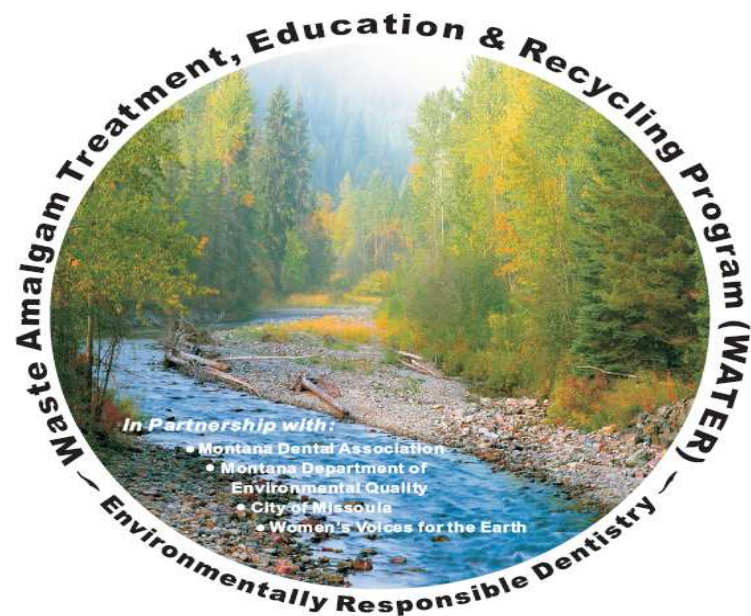
bmp

for dental professionals

South Carolina

- 12/09—Presentation to House of Delegates Promoting Separators
- Possible Affinity Arrangement with Separator Manufacturer in the Works
- Spring, 2010: Presentations on Separators at Each of four District meetings
- Work with Department of Health and Environmental Control on Dentist Office Recognition Program

Montana



Iowa

PREFERRED PROVIDER

Solmetex
50 Bearfoot Road Suite 2
Northborough, MA 01532
Phone: 800-216-5505
Web: www.solmetex.com

*Note: Separator units available for purchase through suppliers listed below. IDA members will receive a free cartridge valued at \$170.

SUPPLIERS AND INSTALLERS

Patterson Dental Supply, Inc.
Davenport Branch: 888-659-5896
Des Moines Branch: 800-626-9034
Omaha Branch: 800-642-9315
Minnesota Branch: 800-552-1260
Web: www.pattersondental.com

Henry Schein Dental
10576 Justin Dr.
Urbandale, IA 50322
Phone: 515-331-0092
Web: www.henryschein.com

Iowa Dental Supply
12001 NW 58th Ave.
Grimes, IA 50111
Phone: 800-362-2072
Web: www.iowadentalsupply.com

YOUR LOCAL PLUMBER

Your dental supplier will need to work with your local plumber to install the separator. You may want to bypass dedicated hygiene operatories.

RECYCLERS

Please refer to the ADA Directory of Recyclers accessible on the "Members Only" portion of the IDA Web site (<http://www.iowaDental.org>.)

VOLUNTARY AMALGAM SEPARATOR PROGRAM

The Iowa Dental Association is the largest, most representative dental association in Iowa. The mission of the 146-year-old organization is to encourage the improvement of the health of the public through efforts like Iowa Mission of Mercy (www.iowamom.org) and Donated Dental Services (www.nfdh.org) to promote the art and science of dentistry, and to represent the interests of the members of the dental profession and the public which it serves.

Iowa Dental Association
5530 West Parkway, Suite 100
Johnston, IA 50131, USA
Telephone: 515-986-5605 or 800-828-2181
FAX: 515-986-5626
E-mail: info@iowadental.org
Web: www.iowaDental.org



New Mexico

Earn Water Authority Certification in Pollution Prevention

A Voluntary, Non-Regulatory Program for Dental Clinics



Now Accepting Applicants for 2010

Join the Water Authority's non-regulatory pollution prevention certification program and get:

- Free technical assistance from the Water Authority
- "Green Business" recognition advertisement in a local periodical
- Year-round recognition on the Water Authority's web site
- Acknowledgment on Gov 16 TV
- Recognition at P2 Program outreach events

For questions and to request an application, please contact:

Ben Zimmerman
Pollution Prevention Specialist
bzimmerman@abcwua.org
505-873-7058



2009 Awardees

J.D. Halle, DDS
Martinez Lujan, DDS
Cottonwood Mall Family Dental Clinic
Uptown Park Family Dental Clinic



Albuquerque Bernalillo County
Water Utility Authority

Amalgam Separators Now Required In Albuquerque

Ordinance aimed at reducing mercury pollution from dental clinics



On Dec. 23, 2009, the Governing Board of the Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority enacted an amendment to its pollution control ordinance **requiring all qualifying dental clinics to install amalgam separators**. These devices are the best way to prevent mercury from dental amalgam from entering the waste stream.

The Water Authority worked in cooperation with the New Mexico Dental Association throughout the process of developing the amendment. The Water Authority presented the amendment to its Board for approval only after determining, with input from the NMDA, that a voluntary program would not be effective. The local ordinance was deemed necessary to meet federal pollution standards after a NMDA-sponsored bill to require amalgam separators statewide failed in the New Mexico Legislature.

What Dentists Need to Know

If you are a dentist practicing in the Water Authority's service area (Albuquerque and Bernalillo County), you **must have an amalgam separator installed no later than July 1, 2010**.


Certain exceptions may apply. To read the ordinance in its entirety, visit www.abcwua.org and go to "Pollution Prevention" under the "Sewer" pull-down menu.

For more information, please call Ben Zimmerman, Pollution Prevention Coordinator for the Water Authority, at 873-7058.



Ohio

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 **Environmental Protection Agency**

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Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention


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DRAFT FOR REVIEW - WEB PAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Recognition of Environmentally Responsible Dentistry - Basic Tier - Tier 2



The Recognition of Environmentally Responsible Dentistry (RERD) program is an easy to participate and voluntary program to recognize the efforts of dental practices to operate in an environmentally responsible manner. The RERD program uses a tiered approach for recognizing dental practices that use simple and innovative solutions to minimize the environmental impact of their practices on Ohio's environment. Everything you need for participation is on-line or can be mailed to you at your request.

The Recognition of Environmentally Responsible Dentistry program includes:



- Comprehensive on-line checklists to identify American Dental Association best management practices (BMPs), environmental regulations that apply to dental offices, and best management practices to help your business be more sustainable and preserve and protect natural resources.
- A **basic tier of recognition** for those following the American Dental Association's BMPs and meeting environmental regulations. Participants receive a certificate from the Ohio Dental Association (ODA).
- A **second tier of recognition** for dental practices pursuing more environmentally sustainable activities. Participants at the sustainable level receive a certificate from ODA and Ohio EPA and are listed on the Environmentally Responsible Dentist Web page.

Please help promote environmental stewardship in the dental profession and be recognized as an environmentally responsible dentist.

Contact the Ohio Dental Association or the Ohio EPA to participate in the program. Dental offices that are pursuing sustainable practices can be recognized for their outstanding efforts by completing the online registration.

Ohio Dental Association
1370 Dublin Road, Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-486-2700
www.oda.org

Ohio EPA
Bill Narotski (e-mail - bill.narotski@epa.state.oh.us)
Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention
P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049
1-800-329-7518
http://epa.ohio.gov/ocapp/mercury_reduction_dental.aspx

OCAPP Hotline
(800) 329-7518
Weekdays, 8 AM - 5 PM

Brownfield
Redevelopment
Environmental
Insurance
Program

MUNICIPAL
STORM WATER
- MS4
COMMUNITIES

Ohio's Food
Scrap
Management
Initiative

Tox-Minus
Initiative

Ohio Awards for
Outstanding
Achievement in
Environmental
Stewardship

Mercury
Reduction

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September 2004 Dear Milwaukee Area Dentists:



The Wisconsin Dental Association (WDA) has worked cooperatively with the state Department of Natural Resources, the UW-Extension and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) in an effort to utilize federal grant monies to develop information that will be helpful for practicing dentists who must make important purchasing decisions in light of the MMSD amalgam separator mandate.

To this end, we worked together to develop a summary of the different types of separators that have already been installed in the dental offices of your Milwaukee-area colleagues. We hope that this summary will give you a sense of what their experiences have been prior to purchasing and installing separators of your own. Furthermore, we applaud the leadership of those dentists who volunteered to be the first in the MMSD area to install separators. WDA would like to recognize their willingness to enter uncharted territories and absorb the costs and hassles of being the first to install separators without receiving any financial incentives to do so. Those efforts will continue to benefit their fellow dentists – not just in Milwaukee but across the entire state.

WDA stands firm in our belief that dental waste accounts for less than 1% of the mercury contamination problem that plagues our lakes and streams. However, it is dentistry's desire to be responsible environmental stewards and to do our part in capturing potential wastes before they enter the stream. Hopefully, the coal-burning power plants and the contributors of the other 99% of the problem will rise to the occasion and take ownership of their responsibilities in a similar fashion.

Sincerely,

Dennis Engel, DDS
President



Take the Bite Out of Dental Amalgam Waste

May 12, 2010

Wastewater treatment facilities everywhere are working diligently to comply with stringent federal effluent limits for mercury. Fortunately, there are excellent solutions available to the dental community to assist in this effort. This workshop will identify and refine ideas for reducing discharges of dental amalgam, a major source of mercury for these sewerage systems.

Speakers will present pertinent information concerning amalgam use in dentistry, technologies and best management practices that reduce amalgam discharges. Course participants will obtain detailed knowledge regarding dental amalgam best management practices and regulatory approaches; examples of educational materials; and suggestions for outreach and measuring progress. In addition, several model community case studies will be presented featuring innovative and successful approaches. Participants will also learn the key aspects of effective operation and maintenance of amalgam separators.

Limit: 150 (limited to dentists and wastewater treatment plant personnel)

Cost: \$75/per person (includes continental breakfast and lunch)

Location: ADA Headquarters, second floor, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.

To Register: Visit the Illinois State Dental Society's website at www.isds.org. Here is a direct link:
<https://www.isds.org/upcomingevents/secureEventRegistration/regform.asp?EventID=1226>

Registration forms may also be mailed to:

Illinois State Dental Society
Attn: Kathy Ridley
PO Box 376
Springfield, IL 62705

Pre-registration deadline is May 7, 2010. After 5/7/10, all registration is on-site.

Program Agenda

Topic	Time	Speaker
Registration and Continental Breakfast	9:00 – 9:30	
Welcome, Introductions and Housekeeping Issues	9:30 - 9:45	Steve Brachman, Univ. of Wisconsin Extension, Solid and Hazardous Waste Education Center
Illinois State Dental Society Illinois EPA	9:45 – 10:00	Dave Marsh, Director, Government Relations, ISDS Becky Jayne, Pollution Prevention Coordinator, Illinois EPA

MICHIGAN

- Michigan Dentists Spearheaded Effort For State-Wide Separator Mandate
- Comparable To Any Other State mandate In Scope
- Local Preemption

Conclusion

- Ideas? Comments? Questions?
- Jerry Bowman
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- bowmanj@ada.org