

Dentistry Waste Disposal Best Management Practices

Waste Type	Source of Waste	Management Practice
Amalgam particles	Traps, screens, excess mix	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Send to recycler or, (2) Manage as hazardous waste. Do not place in trash, medical or biohazardous (red bag) wastes.
Waste Mercury	Spill, spill cleanup	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Send to recycler or, (2) Manage as hazardous waste. Do not place in trash, medical or biohazardous (red bag) wastes.
Fixer	X-ray process	Haul offsite to a licensed reclaim facility for disposal
Developer	X-ray process	Haul offsite to a licensed reclaim facility for disposal
X-ray system cleaners that contain chromium	Disinfection of X-ray processing equipment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Switch to non-chromium containing cleaner or (2) Haul offsite to a licensed reclaim facility for disposal
Disinfectants with formaldehyde or aldehydes	Disinfecting, Glutaraldehyde is the most common active ingredient in cold sterilizer chemical products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemicals used for cleaning lines draining to amalgam separator must not be peroxide or chlorine based. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Use steam or dry heat sterilizer if your instruments allow. (2) Choose replacement products that are less toxic if available for sterilization. (3) pH values must be higher than 6 and
Medical wastes	Sharps, gauze, pathological wastes	Place in sharps container red bag or biohazards waste for medical waste disposal do not mix with mercury wastes
Lead foils and shields	X-ray protective shields	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) send scrap metals to be recycled (2) Dispose of all items as hazardous waste for items from this practice that cannot be recycled