



Fairfax County
Department of Public Works
and Environmental Services
Wastewater Management Program



Fairfax County
Department of Public Works and
Environmental Services
Accredited Organization

Committed to protecting and enhancing the
environment and providing for the health, safety,
and well-being of those who work, live, and visit
in the county.

Protect | Restore | Enhance



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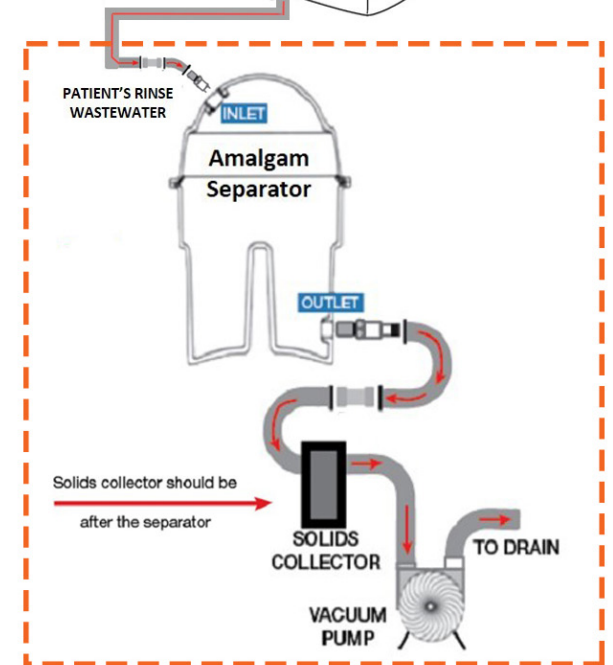
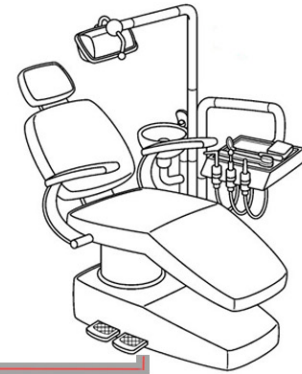
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Dental Amalgam

A Guide to Compliance with the Federal Rule



M.A.R.S. Bio-Med Processes Inc

Dental Amalgam

A Guide to Compliance with the Federal Rule

Dental Amalgam Program

The Environmental Protection Agency has established a new rule that requires Amalgam Separator Technology to be installed and maintained in dental offices that perform procedures with dental amalgam. This effort is expected to prevent over ten tons of metals, including mercury, from entering our nation's Publicly Owned Treatment Works.

Who is affected by this rule?

All dental facilities that perform procedures with dental amalgam are affected. Orthodontists, periodontists, maxillofacial radiologists and surgeons, and prosthodontists who do not perform procedures involving amalgam are not required to install and maintain an amalgam separator.

What if I already have an amalgam separator installed?

If your device is compliant with ISO 11143, is appropriately sized, meets local discharge standards, and is fully operational, you may keep your current technology.

If at any time one or more of these requirements are not met, a new compliant separator must be installed.

How do I get started?

Affected dental facilities **MUST** complete the Virginia Dental Rule Compliance form online at www.deq.virginia.gov/permits-regulations/permits/water/surface-waters-vpdes/dental-rule

Compliance Dates

Immediately - Compliant separators must be installed at new offices upon opening. Compliance form due within 90 days of installation.

July 14, 2020 - Compliant separators must be installed at existing offices. Compliance form due within 90 days of installation.

October 12, 2020 - Compliance form must be submitted for offices with existing separators, or within 90 days of separator replacement after October 12, 2020.

How do I ensure my separator is working properly?

- READ the User Manual of the amalgam separator.
- Install, maintain and inspect your system per manufacturer specifications.
- Ensure solids collector is located AFTER the separator.
- Do not use oxidizing or acidic cleaners (pH <6 or >8) on unit lines or traps.
- Ensure routine waste removal and disposal by a licensed business.



How do I comply?

- Fill out the Virginia Dental Rule Compliance form and retain a copy for the life span of the office.
- Install best available technology in amalgam separation.
- Follow the maintenance and inspection requirements for your amalgam separator.
- Retain maintenance records for 3 years.
- Ensure all dental amalgam waste, including chair side trap waste and contact/non-contact amalgam which may be classified as hazardous waste, is disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations. Keep records of disposal.
- IF you already have a separator installed AND the solids collector is located in front of the separator, the solids may be classified as hazardous waste and must be disposed of in accordance with applicable regulations.

Fairfax County reserves the right to inspect the separator.