



City of Post Falls Industrial Pretreatment Program (Pretreatment Program)

The City of Post Falls Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) collects and treats wastewater from domestic and industrial sources. Certain industries have the potential to discharge hazardous materials that can negatively impact the WRF and the Spokane River. The Pretreatment Program, along with local businesses, must work together to reduce the amount of potentially hazardous substances in the wastewater system.

Practice Best Management Practices (BMPs)

Best Management Practices (BMPS) are proactive techniques that prevent pollution at the source and prevent negative impacts to the WRF. The Pretreatment Program has developed the following BMPS specific to dental care providers to assist in meeting requirements and managing costs.

Meet Discharge Limits:

All dental care providers that send their wastewater to the WRF must make sure their wastewater meets the following federal requirements and/or local discharge limits and prohibitions, summarized, and listed in 40 CFR Part 441 and City of Post Falls Code 13.20.

1. Waste amalgam including, but not limited to, dental amalgam from chair-side traps, screens, vacuum pump filters, dental tools, cuspidors, or collection devices, must not be discharged to the sewer.
2. Dental unit water lines, chair-side traps, and vacuum lines that discharge amalgam process wastewater to the sewer must not be cleaned with oxidizing or acidic cleaners, including but not limited to bleach, chlorine, iodine, and peroxide that have a pH lower than 6 or greater than 8.

Install and properly maintain an amalgam separator meeting ISO 11143 certification.

The amalgam separator must achieve a minimum of 99 percent removal efficiency of dental amalgam, by weight, in accordance with ISO 11143 test procedures, as verified by an ISO certified testing laboratory. Amalgam separators in service at dental facilities prior to the effective date of June 14, 2017, must be certified to achieve a minimum 95 percent removal efficiency of dental amalgam, by weight, in accordance with ISO 11143 test procedures as verified by an ISO-certified testing laboratory

If an amalgam separator is not functioning properly, it must be repaired consistent with manufacturer instructions or replaced with a unit that meets requirements as soon as possible, but no later than 10 business days

Amalgam Waste

1. Limit the amount of amalgam used to the smallest appropriate size for each restoration. Use only pre-capsulated dental amalgam.
2. Eliminate all use of bulk mercury Any unused bulk mercury should be recycled or handled as hazardous waste. It must never be poured in the regular trash, infectious waste collection, or down the drain
3. Consider using disposable amalgam traps instead of reusable traps and have them recycled or handled as hazardous waste.
4. Use, when appropriate, based on your professional judgment, mercury-free alternatives to amalgam such as, gold, ceramic, porcelain, composites, polymers, or glass ionomers.

X-RAY fixer and developer waste

1. Properly manage X-ray fixer waste. Fixer waste is considered a hazardous waste because of its high silver content. Use a silver recovery unit for your developing system or collect the fixer waste for off-site recycling and/or proper disposal.
2. Do not mix X-ray developer solutions with fixer solutions. Some units mix the fixer and developer after they are spent. The resulting solution is hazardous and should be disposed of as hazardous waste
3. **Unused** developer cannot go down the drain because it contains hydroquinone, which is a toxic substance. However, hydroquinone is used up in the developing process, so **used** developer is non-hazardous and is safe to be disposed to sewer.

Lead foils and shields

Recycle or dispose of lead foil that shields x-ray film or protective lead shields as hazardous waste. These materials should never be disposed of in the regular trash, infectious waste, or sewer.

Chemiclave and Sterilization

Chemiclave solutions, disinfectants, and cleaning solutions, can be hazardous depending on their ingredients and concentrations.

Some of the most common chemicals of concern are:

- Acetone
- Ammonia
- Bleaches
- Chromium
- Formaldehydes
- Glutaraldehyde
- Phenols

To avoid using these hazardous chemicals for sterilizing consider converting from a chemiclave to an autoclave sterilization.

Labeling

Properly label the container in which you store your hazardous waste. Check with your disposal company, typically these containers must be labeled with the words "hazardous waste" with a description of the waste.

Record Keeping

All records should be kept a minimum of 3 years. Records should document, employee training, routine maintenance, cleaning, waste removal and means of disposal of accumulated waste.

Spill Prevention and Response

To help prevent spills, store ingredients, products and chemicals in corrosion-resistant containers that will not easily overturn. Use secondary containment as needed to prevent leaks and spills from draining into the wastewater system. Develop a spill response plan and train employees to follow the plan. Post the spill response plan and the contact information for spill notification in a prominent place.

In the event of an accidental discharge or spill of high-strength toxic materials into the wastewater system notification must be made **IMMEDIATELY** to the WRF (see below contact info).

IMPORTANT CONTACT INFORMATION	
<u>City of Post Falls Water Reclamation Facility</u> Pretreatment Program (208) 773-1438 pretreatment@postfalls.gov	<u>Hazardous waste handling contact:</u> IDEQ: (208) 769-1422 Panhandle Health District: 1-800-878-2364
<u>Large volumes of spills that are not hazardous to human health and the environment contact:</u> WRF: (208) 773-1438 WRF (after hours): (208) 981-1765 or (208) 981-1766	<u>Proper disposal of materials and recycling contact:</u> CDA Garbage/Post Falls Sanitation (208) 457-1820 Kootenai County Solid Waste Department (208) 446-1430
<u>Hazardous spills contact:</u> Post Falls Fire Department: 9-1-1	<u>Kootenai County Waste Directory:</u> https://spokaneriver.net/wastedirectory/

Note:

1. Wastewater discharged through most indoor drains flows to the WRF and is treated prior to entering the Spokane River. However, some chemicals cannot be treated and pass through the plant into the river.
2. Stormwater and snowmelt flow to outdoor drains, drywells, and grassy areas that drain directly to the river and aquifer without treatment. Any material exposed to rainwater will be washed into the river or aquifer.
3. Always maintain clean outdoor areas and ensure that all storage is kept off the ground and covered to prevent rainwater contamination.

IT IS IMPORTANT TO KNOW THAT THE INTENTIONAL DISCHARGE OF ANY HAZARDOUS MATERIALS IS A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF CITY, STATE, AND FEDERAL LAW.