

# The Environmentally Responsible Dental Office:

## A Guide to Proper Waste Management in Connecticut Dental Offices

**Northeast Natural Resource Center of the  
National Wildlife Federation  
and  
State of Connecticut Department  
of Environmental Protection**

**June 2000**



**NATIONAL  
WILDLIFE  
FEDERATION®**

*People and Nature:  
Our Future is in the Balance*



*State of Connecticut  
Department of  
Environmental  
Protection*



he information contained in this Resource Handbook is presented in alphabetical order and is based upon research conducted in December 1999 and January 2000. Please note that the listings may not be complete. All information is subject to change. Please call the company contact person first to verify the information.

**The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) and the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP) do not endorse or recommend any particular company or its services.**

**REMEMBER:**

**Liability for proper reclamation or disposal rests with your dental practice. Be sure to talk with the representative of the firm that takes or recycles your metals and other wastes. Gain assurance that waste management contractors properly reclaim or dispose of the metals and other wastes by requesting a receipt, or better yet, a certificate of reclamation.**

**Contact the State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection or the Connecticut State Dental Association for more information regarding hazardous waste rules and how they apply to dental office wastes.**

# Table of Contents

Dental Amalgam Recyclers.....	Page 1
Dental Amalgam Separator Product Vendors.....	4
Battery Recyclers.....	4
Biomedical Waste Disposal Companies.....	5
Flourescent Lamp Recycling Facilities.....	6
Hazardous Waste Programs.....	6
Hazardous Waste Haulers.....	7
Lead Foil Recyclers.....	7
Mercury Recyclers.....	8
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Compliance Supplies and Equipment Vendors.....	8
Rental Test Equipment Companies.....	8
Scrap Metal Recyclers.....	8
Silver Reclamation Facilities.....	9
Silver Recovery Unit Vendors.....	9
Connecticut State Dental Association.....	9
State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.....	9

# Dental Amalgam Recyclers

## ☛ NOTE:

Many of the amalgam recyclers listed below will take **elemental mercury** as a service to their customers. If they do, it is noted in the “Other” section for each recycler. The “Other” section also lists additional services provided by the recycler which may be useful to dentists.

Many hazardous waste and biomedical waste haulers will also accept amalgam for recycling as part of their services. Please check with your hauler to see if they provide that service.

### **Company: Advanced Environmental Recycling Company (AERC)**

**Contact:** Bonnie Swavelly or Sandy Smith at (800) 554-AERC

**Service Provided:** AERC provides dentists with a kit which includes a container for amalgam recycling (call for exact size of container).

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** AERC accepts both, but contact amalgam must be certified as a non bio-hazard. Teeth with amalgam and chairside traps can be included.

**Cost:** \$90.00 for cost of retort and the kit. Shipping and handling is separate.

**Other:** AERC is a full service mercury recycler, providing mercury spill kits and taking elemental mercury from its customers. AERC may also take lead foil, but call first as this service will be provided on a case-by-case basis.

**Website:** [www.aerc-mti.com](http://www.aerc-mti.com)

### **Company: Amalgaway Mail Disposal Service**

**Contact:** Paula Jensen at (800) 267-1467

**Service Provided:** Amalgaway provides dentists with a kit, which includes a 1 gallon container for amalgam recycling, disinfectant, and moisture absorbent material. Dentists will receive a certificate indicating how much mercury was recycled.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Amalgaway accepts both contact and non-contact amalgam, including teeth that have amalgam. Chairside traps can also be included.

**Cost:** \$99.95 per kit, includes shipping. The kit can hold 35-50 traps and lasts for approximately 4 months.

**Other:** Amalgaway will also accept elemental mercury but you must arrange for this service.

### **Company: Bethlehem Apparatus Company**

**Contact:** Eve Lawrence at (610) 838-7034

**Service Provided:** Bethlehem provides dentists with a dental recycling kit. The dentist will receive a certificate of recycling in return (upon request).

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Bethlehem accepts both, including teeth with amalgam. Traps can also be included.

**Cost:** Bethlehem charges \$18.00 for a 25-ounce container kit. Contact the individual listed above to discuss the availability of different size containers. The Company will send the dentist a payment for the recovered silver in accordance with market prices.

**Other:** Bethlehem also offers a Dental Mercury Spill Kit for \$48.00 and will take elemental mercury.

**Website:** [www.mercuryrecycling.com](http://www.mercuryrecycling.com)



**Company: DeBoer Recovery**

**Contact:** Jack DeBoer at (518) 568-5299

**Service Provided:** Dentists can mail amalgam directly to the company. Amalgam should be wrapped in heavy plastic and boxed. Mail to: 2055 Fordsbush Road, Ft. Plain, NY 13339.

The dentist will receive prompt payment for the amalgam.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** The Company will accept both contact and non-contact amalgam.

Teeth with amalgam and chairside traps can be included.

**Cost:** DeBoer will pay for 2 pure troy ounces of silver for each clean (less extraneous substances) pound of amalgam recovered (i.e., in a \$5 silver market, the dentist would receive \$10/lb of amalgam).

**Other:** DeBoer also purchases dental X-ray film; supplies silver recovery equipment for X-ray fixers and purchases the recovered silver; and, buys dental gold (will pay for 1/2 troy ounce of pure gold for each ounce of dental gold recovered). DeBoer does not take elemental mercury or provide mercury spill kits. All prices mentioned above are based on average material.

**Company: Doral Refinery**

**Contact:** Alan Zaret at (800) 645-2794

**Service Provided:** Dentists can mail amalgam directly to the company. The amalgam must be in a triple sealed bag, in containers provided by the company, or in any closed container. Doral prefers to buy amalgam in a dry state. It does not have to be sanitized.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Doral Refinery accepts both. Teeth with amalgam are accepted, as are chairside traps.

**Cost:** Doral Refinery will pay for the amalgam based on current market rates.

**Other:** Doral also accepts lead foil as a courtesy to its customers.

**Website:** [www.doralcorp.com](http://www.doralcorp.com)

**Company: Everlights**

**Contact:** Kelly Aaron at (815) 469-0631

**Service Provided:** Dentists can ship their dental amalgam directly to the company or Everlights can provide a container. Everlights will reply with an invoice and a certificate of recycling.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Everlights accepts both. Teeth with amalgam are accepted, as are chairside traps. The amalgam does not need to be dry but the Company prefers it to be sanitized.

**Cost:** Everlights charges approximately \$7.00 per pound of amalgam submitted for recycling.

**Other:** Everlights also supplies mercury spill kits and will accept elemental mercury.

**Company: Garfield Refining Company**

**Contact:** Joel Samitz at (800) 523-0968

**Service Provided:** Dentists can mail amalgam directly to the company. Garfield Refining responds within 24 hours with payment for the amalgam and a certificate of indemnification. The *amalgam must be dry*. Garfield will not accept trap waste. If the dentist has a sufficient quantity of amalgam, it will supply the dentist with a container.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** The Company will only take contact amalgam if the amalgam is extracted from the traps and does not include any type of infectious waste.

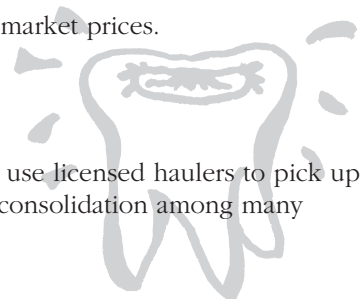
**Cost:** The Company is currently paying \$4 per pound based on current market prices.

**Website:** [www.garfield-refining.com](http://www.garfield-refining.com)

**Company: Global Recycling Technologies**

**Contact:** Barry Jordan at (800) 478-6055 ext. 214

**Service Provided:** Global Recycling will either pick up the amalgam or use licensed haulers to pick up the material for recycling. There is a flat fee for the pick-up. Therefore, consolidation among many



dentists may be economical. The dentist can also mail the amalgam directly to Global if it is in a leak-proof container and packed in sand or a similar material. Contact amalgam must be disinfected prior to shipping.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Global Recycling will accept both as long as the contact amalgam is disinfected. Teeth with amalgam and chairside traps are also accepted.

**Cost:** Cost is on a case-by-case basis so dentists are encouraged to call first.

**Other:** Global Recycling Technologies is the only licensed commercial reclamation facility in New England. It also accepts any type of mercury waste including fluorescent lightbulbs, mercury thermometers, and elemental mercury. Batteries, computers, and lead foil are accepted as well. The Company also supplies mercury spill kits.

**Website:** [www.grtonline.com](http://www.grtonline.com)

**Company: Lebow Metals**

**Contact:** Benjie Lebow at 1-800-AMALGAM (262-5426) or (603) 668-8332

**Service Provided:** Dental offices can mail amalgam directly to Lebow Metals. If a dental office has particularly large quantities of amalgam (more than 20 lbs.), it may be possible to arrange a pick-up.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Lebow Metals will accept both. Contact amalgam must be stored in a disinfectant solution. Non-contact amalgam does not need to be disinfected. Teeth containing amalgam are acceptable when stored in a disinfectant solution. Amalgam in traps is acceptable if disinfectant has been added to the container and sealed.

**Cost:** Lebow Metals will purchase amalgam scrap based on the current silver market.

**Other:** Lebow Metals also purchases dental gold, dental gold palladium alloys, silver points, and gold foil. The Company will accept lead foil to be recycled as a courtesy while purchasing other dental scrap metals. Lebow Metals does not supply mercury spill kits or take elemental mercury.

**Company: Mercury Refining Company, Inc.**

**Contact:** David Cohen at (800) 833-3505

**Service Provided:** Mercury Refining will accept all types of amalgam or alloys. Materials need to be pre-qualified, so the dentist *must call* before shipping materials for recycling. The Company does not want to receive small shipments of amalgam (i.e., ounces), but prefers to receive quantities of a pound or more.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Mercury Refining will accept both as long as the contact amalgam is removed from the traps and does not include any extraneous substances.

**Cost:** Mercury Refining will pay for materials submitted for recycling based on current market prices.

**Other:** The Company will take elemental mercury, properly packaged, as a service to its customers, and will also take lead foil. Mercury Refining does not provide mercury spill kits.

**Website:** [www.mercuryrefining.com](http://www.mercuryrefining.com)

**Company: Mercury Waste Solutions**

**Contact:** Jim Cornwell at (800) 741-3343

**Service Provided:** Mercury Waste Solutions will set up a waste material profile and collect dental amalgam from participating dental offices.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** The Company will accept both. Contact amalgam must be disinfected. The amalgam can be either wet or dry. Teeth with amalgam are accepted, as are chairside traps.

**Cost:** Pricing and transportation will be based on the volume at each individual dental office.

**Other:** Mercury Waste Solutions will also accept fluorescent lightbulbs and ballasts, batteries, computer equipment, elemental mercury, and mercury switches.

**Website:** [www.mercurywastesolutions.com](http://www.mercurywastesolutions.com)

**Company: Safety-Kleen**

**Contact:** Jim Jones at (860) 953-4222

**Service Provided:** Safety-Kleen will provide dentists with an amalgam recycling kit.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Safety-Kleen accepts both. Teeth with amalgam and chairside traps can also be included.

**Cost:** Safety-Kleen currently charges a \$15 sign-up fee and \$125 per each recycling kit. A company representative will come to the office and explain the program.

**Other:** The Company also sells mercury spill kits and accepts lead foil, X-ray fixer and developer, X-ray film, and will buy old X-rays. Safety-Kleen will accept up to 1 pound of elemental mercury.

**Website:** [www.safety-kleen.com](http://www.safety-kleen.com)

**Company: Superior Special Services, Inc. (formerly Recyclights, Inc.)**

**Contact:** Brian Golob at (800) 831-2852

**Service Provided:** Dentists can mail amalgam directly to Superior Special Services. The amalgam must be certified as non-infectious (the Company will provide the dentist with a form to fill out). The amalgam must be dry.

**Contact vs. Non-contact:** Superior Special Services will accept both. Teeth with amalgam are accepted, as are chairside traps.

**Cost:** The Company currently charges \$4.50 per pound of amalgam with a minimum handling charge of \$50.00.

**Other:** Superior Special Services will take elemental mercury, lead foil, fluorescent lightbulbs, lamp ballasts, and batteries. The Company does not supply mercury spill kits.

**Website:** [www.superspecial.com](http://www.superspecial.com) or [www.recyclights.com](http://www.recyclights.com)

## Dental Amalgam Separator Product Vendors

**Company:** Dental Recycling of North America (DRNA)

**Contact:** Robert M. Donnelly at (800) 525-3793

**Website:** [www.drna.com](http://www.drna.com)

**Company:** R&D Services

**Contact:** Dr. Ross Fraker at (206) 525-4994

**Company:** Reber Ecological Systems (REBEC)

**Contact:** Tim Reber (800) 569-1088

## Battery Recyclers

**Company:** Global Recycling Technologies

**Contact:** (800) 478-6055

**Website:** [www.grtonline.com](http://www.grtonline.com)

**Company:** Mercury Waste Solutions

**Contact:** (877) 636-6514

**Website:** [www.mercurywastesolutions.com](http://www.mercurywastesolutions.com)

**Company:** Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) –*recycles Ni-Cd rechargeable batteries*

**Contact:** (800) 8BATTERY

**Website:** [www.rbrbc.org](http://www.rbrbc.org)

**Company:** Superior Special Services, Inc.  
**Contact:** (800) 831-2852  
**Website:** [www.superspecial.com](http://www.superspecial.com)

## Biomedical Waste Disposal Companies

☛ **NOTE:** Many biomedical waste transporters will accept other dental wastes, including hazardous wastes, from dental offices as part of their services. If they do, it is noted in the “Other Dental Waste Accepted” section for each company.

**Company:** Clean Harbors Environmental Services  
**Contact:** David Batogowski at (800) 637-2666 ext. 348  
**Website:** [www.cleanharbors.com](http://www.cleanharbors.com)  
**State Permit No.:** CT-BMW-014  
**Other Dental Waste Accepted:** X-ray fixer and developer, lead foil, dental amalgam, glutaraldehyde, and hazardous waste.

**Company:** Environmental Control Company - A Stericycle Company  
FAIRFIELD COUNTY, CT ONLY  
**Contact:** Paulette O’Hara at (800) 762-5508  
**State Permit No.:** CT-BMW-007  
**Other Dental Waste Accepted:** X-ray fixer, lead foil, dental amalgam, some hazardous waste.

**Company:** Medwaste Management, Inc. of New England  
**Contact:** Alan Tuchmann at (800) 459-1555  
**State Permit No.:** CT-BMW-009  
**Other Dental Waste Accepted:** Dental amalgam, lead foil, X-ray fixer and developer.

**Company:** National Waste Management, Inc.  
**Contact:** Robert Deslauriers at (800) 472-7828  
**Website:** [www.national-waste-mgmt.com](http://www.national-waste-mgmt.com)  
**State Permit No.:** CT-BMW-008  
**Other Dental Waste Accepted:** Dental amalgam, X-ray fixer and developer, lead foil, hazardous waste.

**Company:** Pathacura  
**Contact:** Rob Mongillo or Regina Hopkins at (800) 315-6373  
**State Permit No.:** CT-BMW-018  
**Other Dental Waste Accepted:** Lead foil, X-ray fixer and developer, and hazardous waste. They will also accept dental amalgam and elemental mercury but dentists must call first to set up this service.

**Company:** Stericycle, Inc.  
**Contact:** Customer Service at (800) 231-7233  
**Website:** [www.stericycle.com](http://www.stericycle.com)  
**State Permit No.:** CT-BMW-005  
**Other Dental Waste Accepted:** X-ray fixer and developer, lead film, dental amalgam, hazardous waste, and glutaraldehyde. Stericycle has a special waste pick-up and education program for dentists called “Steri-Safe.”

**Company:** Trans Med Ltd.  
**Contact:** (516) 981-8300  
**State Permit No.:** CT-BMW-013  
**Other Dental Waste Accepted:** X-ray fixer and developer

## Fluorescent Lamp Recycling Facilities

**NOTE:** Unless otherwise noted, all the companies below will also accept lamp ballasts.

**Company:** Advanced Environmental Recycling Corporation  
**Contact:** (800) 554-AERC  
**Website:** [www.aerc-mti.com](http://www.aerc-mti.com)

**Company:** American Lamp Recycling  
**Contact:** (800) 315-6262

**Company:** Global Recycling Technologies  
**Contact:** (800) 478-6055  
**Website:** [www.grtonline.com](http://www.grtonline.com)

**Company:** Northeast Lamp Recycling  
**Contact:** (888) NLR-LAMP or (860) 292-1992  
**Website:** [www.nlrlamp.com](http://www.nlrlamp.com)

**Company:** Bethlehem Apparatus  
**Contact:** (610) 838-7034  
**Website:** [www.mercuryrecycling.com](http://www.mercuryrecycling.com)  
*\*does not accept ballasts*

**Company:** USA Lamp and Ballast Recycling  
**Contact:** (800) 778-6645  
**Website:** [www.usalamp.com](http://www.usalamp.com)

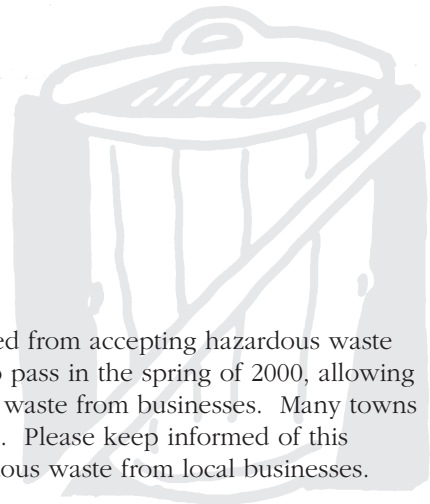
**Company:** Green Lights Recycling, Inc.  
**Contact:** John Crudo at (800) 208-8340  
**Website:** [www.greenlights@worldnet.att.net](mailto:www.greenlights@worldnet.att.net)

**Company:** Mercury Waste Solutions  
**Contact:** (877) 636-6514 (toll-free)  
**Website:** [www.mercurywastesolutions.com](http://www.mercurywastesolutions.com)

**Company:** Superior Special Services, Inc.  
**Contact:** (800) 831-2852  
**Website:** [www.superspecial.com](http://www.superspecial.com)

## Hazardous Waste Programs

Under current Connecticut law, municipalities are prohibited from accepting hazardous waste from businesses. A proposed change to this law is expected to pass in the spring of 2000, allowing towns and counties to decide if they want to accept hazardous waste from businesses. Many towns have indicated that they will begin accepting this type of waste. Please keep informed of this legislation and encourage your town to begin accepting hazardous waste from local businesses.




## Hazardous Waste Haulers

Under current Connecticut law all dental offices must dispose of their hazardous waste through a licensed hazardous waste hauler. All of the following haulers will accept elemental mercury for recycling.

- Hauler:** Clean Harbors  
**Contact:** David Batogowski at (800) 637-2666 ext. 348  
**Website:** [www.cleanharbors.com](http://www.cleanharbors.com)
- Hauler:** Environmental Services, Inc.  
**Contact:** Seb Cannata at (800) 486-7745
- Hauler:** Heritage Environmental Services  
**Contact:** Christina Coulombe at (802) 860-1200  
**Website:** [www.heritage-enviro.com](http://www.heritage-enviro.com)
- Hauler:** National Waste Management, Inc.  
**Contact:** Robert Deslauriers at (800) 472-7828  
**Website:** [www.national-waste-mgmt.com](http://www.national-waste-mgmt.com)
- Hauler:** Pathacura  
**Contact:** Rob Mongillo or Regina Hopkins at (800) 315-6373
- Hauler:** Safety-Kleen Corp.  
**Contact:** Don Zielinski at (860) 953-7018  
**Website:** [www.safety-kleen.com](http://www.safety-kleen.com)
- Hauler:** Stericycle, Inc.  
**Contact:** Customer Service at (800) 231-7233  
**Website:** [www.stericycle.com](http://www.stericycle.com)
- Hauler:** TRI-S Environmental Services, Inc.  
**Contact:** Ron Bliss at (860) 875-2110  
**Website:** [www.tri.s@snet.net](http://www.tri.s@snet.net)

## Lead Foil Recyclers

- Company:** Eastman Kodak Company  
**Contact:** Customer Service at (800) 933-8031  
**Website:** [www.kodak.com/go/dental](http://www.kodak.com/go/dental)
- Company:** Doral Refinery  
**Contact:** Alan Zaret at (800) 645-2794  
**Website:** [www.doralcorp.com](http://www.doralcorp.com)
- Company:** Safety-Kleen  
**Contact:** Ken Mangerserran at (860) 953-4222  
**Website:** [www.safety-kleen.com](http://www.safety-kleen.com)

 **NOTE:** In addition to the above mentioned companies, many amalgam recyclers will take lead foil as a courtesy to their customers. Be sure to check with your amalgam recycler to see if they provide this service.

## Mercury Recyclers

**Company:** Mercury Waste Solutions  
**Contact:** (877) 636-6514  
**Website:** [www.mercurywastesolutions.com](http://www.mercurywastesolutions.com)

**Company:** USA Lamp and Ballast Recycling  
**Contact:** (800) 778-6645  
**Website:** [www.usalamp.com](http://www.usalamp.com)

## Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Compliance Supplies and Equipment Vendors

**Company:** Lab Safety  
**Contact:** (800) 356-0783  
**Website:** [www.labsafety.com](http://www.labsafety.com)

**Company:** New Pig Corporation  
**Contact:** (800) hot-hogs (468-4647)  
**Website:** [www.newpig.com](http://www.newpig.com)

**Company:** Stericycle, Inc.  
**Contact:** Customer Service at (800) 231-7233  
**Website:** [www.stericycle.com](http://www.stericycle.com)

**Company:** VWR Scientific  
**Contact:** (800) 932-5000  
**Website:** [www.vwrsp.com](http://www.vwrsp.com)

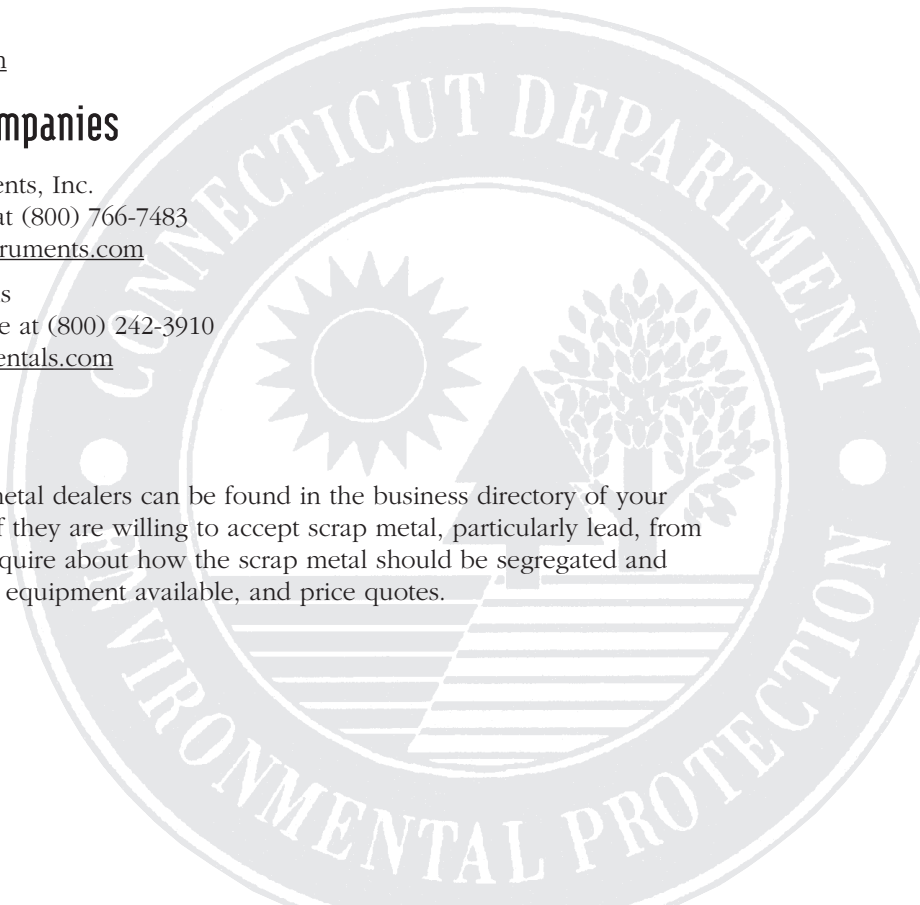
## Rental Test Equipment Companies

**Company:** On-site Instruments, Inc.  
**Contact:** Carlo Recinella at (800) 766-7483  
**Website:** [www.on-siteinstruments.com](http://www.on-siteinstruments.com)

**Company:** Response Rentals  
**Contact:** Customer Service at (800) 242-3910  
**Website:** [www.responserentals.com](http://www.responserentals.com)

## Scrap Metal Recyclers

A complete listing of scrap metal dealers can be found in the business directory of your telephone book. Ask the dealer if they are willing to accept scrap metal, particularly lead, from dental offices. Also, be sure to inquire about how the scrap metal should be segregated and packaged, the transportation and equipment available, and price quotes.



## Silver Reclamation Facilities

- Company:** DeBoer Recovery  
**Contact:** Jack DeBoer at (518) 568-5299  
**Service Provided:** DeBoer Recovery will accept X-ray film. The Company will provide dental offices with silver recovery equipment to process X-ray fixer. Mr. DeBoer will consult with the dentist to explain the procedure and use of the equipment.
- Company:** Safety-Kleen  
**Contact:** Don Zielinski at (860) 953-7018  
**Service Provided:** Safety-Kleen will accept used X-ray fixer, developer, and X-ray film.  
**Website:** [www.safety-kleen.com](http://www.safety-kleen.com)

## Silver Recovery Unit Vendors

- Company:** Allied Diagnostic Imaging Resources Corporation  
**Contact:** Bryan Murphy at (800) 477-5440  
**Website:** [www.cpac-fuller.com](http://www.cpac-fuller.com)
- Company:** Eastman Kodak Company Dental Products  
**Contact:** Customer Service at (800) 933-8031  
**Website:** [www.kodak.com/go/dental](http://www.kodak.com/go/dental)
- Company:** Ecology Recovery Systems  
**Contact:** Pat O'Tool at (508) 852-8451
- Company:** Siltech Corporation  
**Contact:** Horacio Rabini at (888) SILTECH  
**Website:** [www.silverrecovery.com](http://www.silverrecovery.com)

## Connecticut State Dental Association

- Contact:** Noel Bishop, Executive Director  
**Address:** CSDA Central Office, 62 Russ Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106  
**Phone:** (860) 278-5550  
**Fax:** (860) 244-8287  
**Website:** [www.csda.com](http://www.csda.com)

## State of Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection

- Address:** 79 Elm Street, Hartford, Connecticut 06106-5127  
**Website:** <http://dep.state.ct.us>

### Bureau of Waste Management

- |   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Office of Pollution Prevention                    | (860) 424-3297 |
| Waste Engineering and Enforcement Division (WEED) |                |
| Permitting and General Information                | (860) 424-3372 |
| Enforcement and General Information               | (860) 424-3023 |
| Transporter Permitting and General Information    | (860) 424-3372 |
| Biomedical Waste                                  | (860) 424-3372 |
| Recycling Program                                 | (860) 424-3365 |
| Water Program                                     | (860) 424-3018 |

# The Environmentally Responsible Dental Office – A Guide to the Proper Waste Management in Dentals

## *Mercury/Amalgam Waste Handling Procedures*



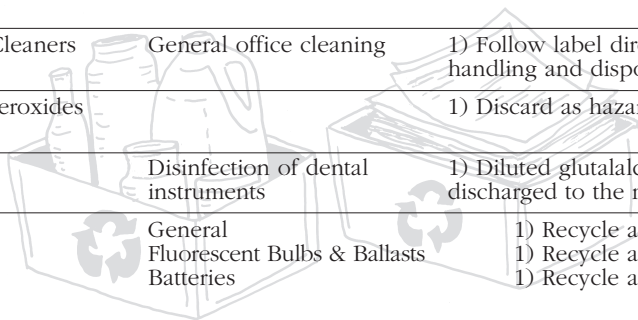
WASTE TYPE	SOURCE	MANAGEMENT OPTIONS	RESTRICTIONS
Extracted Teeth	Dental extractions	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Use universal precautions when handling extracted teeth</li> <li>2) Place in the contact amalgam container</li> <li>3) Recycle through an amalgam recycler</li> </ol>	<p><b>DO NOT:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) place in the biohazard bag</li> <li>2) place in the trash</li> <li>3) place in the sharps container</li> </ol>
Elemental Mercury	Bulk mercury containers, spills & spill cleanup	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Always wear nitrile gloves when cleaning up a spill</li> <li>2) Train staff in spill clean-up procedures</li> <li>3) Recycle unused bulk mercury through a recycler</li> </ol>	<p><b>DO NOT:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) discharge to municipal sanitary sewer</li> <li>2) place in the trash</li> <li>3) place in the biohazard bag</li> <li>4) place in the sharps container</li> <li>5) clean up spills with a vacuum cleaner</li> </ol>
Empty Amalgam Capsules	Fillings, restoration work	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Discard into the trash</li> </ol>	
Broken or Unusable Amalgam Capsules	Fillings, restoration work	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Collect and store contents with scrap amalgam for recycling</li> </ol>	<p><b>DO NOT</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) place in the trash</li> <li>2) place in the biohazard bag</li> <li>3) place in the sharps container</li> </ol>
Scrap Amalgam	Traps, screens, excess mix, vacuum pump filters	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Store in labeled containers</li> <li>2) Send to a recycler</li> <li>3) Recycle heavily contaminated traps</li> <li>4) Recycle vacuum pump filters</li> </ol>	<p><b>DO NOT:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) place in the biohazard bag</li> <li>2) discharge to municipal sanitary sewer</li> <li>3) place in the sharps container</li> <li>4) place in the trash</li> <li>5) disinfect with any method that uses heat</li> </ol>
Broken Thermometers and Blood Pressure Units	Accidental breakage	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Clean up visible mercury with mercury spill kit - always wear nitrile gloves</li> <li>2) Place contaminated items in container that will not leak or rupture; label as required by law</li> <li>3) Discard contaminated items through a hazardous waste hauler</li> </ol>	<p><b>DO NOT:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) place contaminated items in the trash</li> <li>2) place contaminated items in the biohazard bag.</li> <li>3) place contaminated items in the sharps container</li> </ol>

# The Environmentally Responsible Dental Office – A Guide to Proper Waste Management in Dental Offices

## Dental Office Waste Handling Procedures



WASTE TYPE	SOURCE	MANAGEMENT OPTIONS	RESTRICTIONS
Biomedical Waste	Dental procedures	<b>Sharps:</b> Discard as biomedical waste <b>Blood and Body Fluids:</b> Discard as biomedical waste if greater than 20 cubic cm. Smaller amounts may be discharged to the municipal sanitary sewer. <b>Contact Wastes (gloves, bibs):</b> Place in trash <b>Teeth:</b> Give to patient or place in trash. Teeth with amalgam should be placed contact amalgam container	1) <b>DO NOT</b> mix with hazardous waste 2) <b>DO NOT</b> mix with amalgam
Unused Chemicals and Drugs	Dental procedures	1) Discard as hazardous waste 2) Return to manufacturer	1) <b>DO NOT</b> place in the trash 1) <b>DO NOT</b> discharge into the municipal sanitary sewer
Used X-Ray Fixer Solution	X-ray processing	1) Discard through a silver reclamation facility or hazardous waste hauler OR 2) Purchase your own silver recovery unit	1) <b>DO NOT</b> discharge used X-ray fixer into the municipal sanitary sewer
X-Ray Developer	X-ray processing	1) Contact Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection at 860-424-3018 to obtain a general permit before discharging to municipal sanitary sewer	1) <b>DO NOT</b> mix x-ray developer and used X-ray fixer 2) If mixing occurs, discard mixture as hazardous waste
X-Ray Film	X-ray processing	1) Recycle film or discard into the trash	
Chromium-Containing X-Ray System Cleaners	X-ray system cleaning	1) Discard as hazardous waste 2) Switch to non-chromium cleaners	1) <b>DO NOT</b> discharge cleaners containing chromium into the municipal sanitary sewer
Lead Foils, Shields and	X-ray processing, Protective shields	1) Recycle through a scrap metal dealer or discard as hazardous waste 2) Return worn out aprons to the original manufacturer for recycling or discard as hazardous waste	<b>DO NOT:</b> 1) place in the trash 2) place in the biohazard bag
Chemiclave/Chemical Sterilant Solutions	Sterilization of dental instruments	1) Discard as hazardous waste	<b>DO NOT:</b> 1) discharge chemiclave solution to the municipal sanitary sewer 2) flush down septic system
Disinfectants and Cleaners	General office cleaning	1) Follow label directions for handling and disposal	1) <b>DO NOT</b> discharge to municipal sanitary sewer
Alcohols, Ethers, Peroxides		1) Discard as hazardous waste	1) <b>DO NOT</b> discharge to municipal sanitary sewer
Glutalaldehyde	Disinfection of dental instruments	1) Diluted glutalaldehyde may be discharged to the municipal sanitary sewer	1) <b>DO NOT</b> flush down septic system
Office Waste	General Fluorescent Bulbs & Ballasts Batteries	1) Recycle as much as possible 1) Recycle all fluorescent bulbs & lamp ballasts 1) Recycle all batteries	1) <b>DO NOT</b> place in trash 1) <b>DO NOT</b> place in the trash, biohazard bag, or sharps container





NATIONAL  
WILDLIFE  
FEDERATION®

*People and Nature:  
Our Future is in the Balance*