



KEEP DRAINS AMALGAM FREE

Recycle Dental Amalgam

Mercury-containing wastes can threaten our environment. Washed down the drain or otherwise improperly disposed of, mercury can find its way into Sacramento waterways and the environment. The Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) is working to reduce mercury discharges to the Sacramento River, and the dental community can help.



Best Management Practices

- **Do** use precapsulated alloys in a variety of sizes
- **Do** store mercury-containing wastes in airtight containers
- **Do** collect all amalgam wastes and recycle them as universal wastes
- **Do** keep waste streams segregated to optimize recycling and disposal options
- **Do** use chair-side traps and vacuum pump filters and recycle them properly
- **Do** install an amalgam separator that complies with ISO 11143 and maintain it properly
- **Do** train staff on proper handling and disposal of mercury-containing waste
- **Don't** rinse traps and screens in the sink
- **Don't** flush amalgam waste down the drain or toilet
- **Don't** put mercury-containing waste in medical waste containers (red bags)
- **Don't** place other materials in your mercury-containing waste containers
- **Don't** use bleach or chlorine-containing line cleaners

More Information

SRCSD, in cooperation with the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC), has compiled a list of companies that will accept amalgam waste from Sacramento area dentists. Contact BERC at (916) 874-2100 or visit www.sacberc.org to obtain more information.

To learn more, call SRCSD at (916) 875-6470.

