

Dental Amalgam Rule Information

Who is affected by this regulation?

This rule applies to offices, including large institutions such as dental schools and clinics, where dentistry is practiced that discharge to a POTW. It does not apply to mobile units or offices where the practice of dentistry consists only of the following dental specialties: oral pathology, oral and maxillofacial radiology, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, periodontics, or prosthodontics.

What is the rule?

EPA Dental Amalgam Rule – 40 CFR Part 441

Dental offices that place or remove amalgam must operate and maintain an amalgam separator and must not discharge scrap amalgam or use certain kinds of line cleaners and must submit a one-time compliance report to the Control Authority.

Control Authorities are responsible for oversight associated with this rule. In areas that do not have an approved Pretreatment Program, NCDWR is the control authority.

When does this go in effect?

New Source Requirements: Any new dentist/dental practice that opens on or after **July 14, 2017** must comply with the Rule prior to discharging dental wastewater to a POTW. The New Source One-Time Compliance Report is due to the Control Authority NLT 90 days following introduction of wastewater into a POTW.

Existing Source Requirements Equipment - Amalgam separators meeting ISO 11143 standards and sized as required in rule must be installed by **July 14, 2020**. - If amalgam separator is currently in use, but does not meet the ISO 11143 standard and/or sizing requirements, it may continue to be used until replacement required or July 14, 2027, whichever is sooner.

Why should UCPW get involved?

Control Authorities are responsible for oversight associated with this rule. Once UCPW achieves an approved Pretreatment Program through NCDWR, UCPW becomes the Control Authority. Per the rule, any required dental practices must self-report the compliance report to UCPW. UCPW must maintain this information for 3 years, in accordance with 15A-NCAC 02H.0907 Records and Retention.

NO requirement for UCPW to seek out, monitor, contact, or request this information. The responsibility is on the dental industry to self-report to the Control Authority.

Additional Thoughts

The intent was to get out in front of this rule and make a form available to the dental industry as they (1) are becoming a new facility and (2) to provide an avenue to acquire this information once UCPW becomes the Control Authority. A link to the form on the website would be ideal...