

Compliance Checklist:

- ☐ Submit a One-Time Compliance Report for new or transfer-of-ownership dental practices within 90 days of purchase/transfer. Your practice may periodically be required to submit additional information at the request of the Regional Water Quality Control Plant. Contact Pretreatment@paloalto.gov for submittal details or to request a copy of your existing compliance report.
- ☐ Install and maintain approved ISO 11143 or ANSI/ADA 108 certified amalgam separator.
- ☐ Repair or replace malfunctioning amalgam separators no more than 10 business days after the malfunction was discovered.
- ☐ Implement Best Management Practices (see reverse side for details).
- ☐ Keep training, disposal and equipment records on-site and available for inspection.



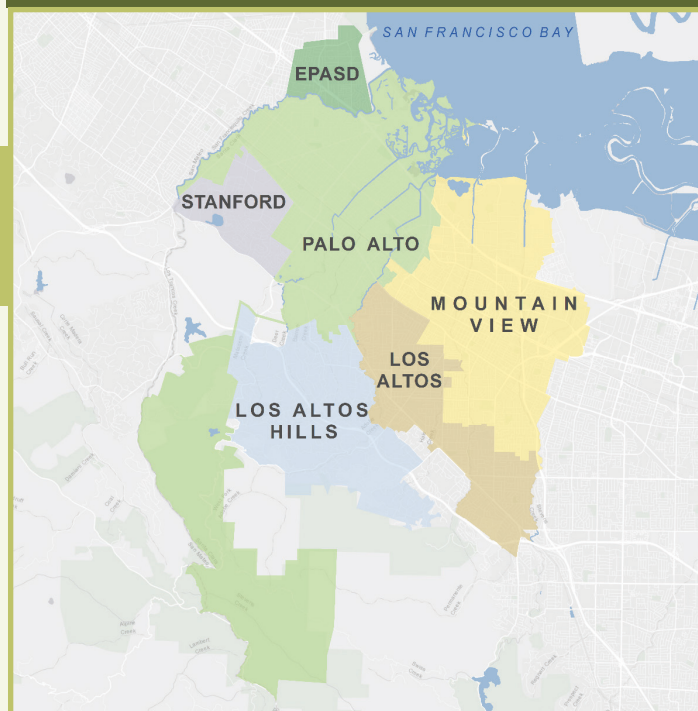
Amalgam Separator Requirements:

- ☐ Install ISO 11143 or ANSI/ADA 108 compliant amalgam separator that achieves at least 95% removal;
- ☐ Accommodate the maximum discharge rate of amalgam process wastewater;
- ☐ Inspect to ensure proper operation and maintenance according to manufacturer instructions; and
- ☐ Ensure installed, inspected, maintained, and repaired according to manufacturer instructions.

Regional Water Quality Control Plant Contact Information

- » Phone Number: **(650) 329-2122**
- » Email: **Pretreatment@paloalto.gov**
- » Visit **paloalto.gov/wastewatertreatment** for more information on this and other business and industrial sanitary sewer requirements.

Service Area



DENTAL AMALGAM MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS



Wastewater from your dental practice drains to the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant (Plant), where it is treated before flowing to the San Francisco Bay. Waste from mercury amalgam fillings, if not properly managed, will flow to the Plant and eventually the Bay, where it can harm aquatic ecosystems. You can help reduce mercury loads to the Plant and Bay by complying with the federal and local regulations for dental amalgam. All dental practices that place or remove mercury amalgam within the Plant service area are required to comply. The Plant's service area includes:

- **East Palo Alto Sanitary District**
- **Los Altos**
- **Los Altos Hills**
- **Mountain View**
- **Palo Alto**
- **Stanford**



**We Need Your Help to
Reduce Mercury in the Bay**





Help Reduce Mercury Pollution with these Best Management Practices

1

Eliminate use of bulk elemental mercury. Bulk elemental mercury, also referred to as liquid or raw mercury, must be recycled or disposed as hazardous waste. Use only pre-capsulated dental amalgam in the smallest appropriate size.

2

Properly manage chair-side traps. Clean and maintain chair-side traps in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Store the trap and its contents with amalgam waste. Never rinse traps in the sink or flush amalgam waste in the toilet.

3

Do not use bleach (sodium hypochlorite), peroxide, iodine, or chlorine-based products (i.e. oxidizing or acidic cleaners) to clean dental unit water lines, chair-side traps, and vacuum lines. These products have been shown to release the mercury in the amalgam. Use only non-chlorine, non-oxidizing, neutral line cleaners with a pH between 6 and 8.

4

Properly maintain and dispose screens. Change vacuum pump filters and screens as needed or as directed by the manufacturer and store with amalgam waste. Seal and store filters in airtight containers along with screens and their contents (including any water that may be present) and dispose with amalgam waste as hazardous waste.

5

Maintain amalgam separators and vacuum systems according to manufacturer's recommendations. Keep written or digital records of amalgam separator inspections, as well as all documentation of amalgam equipment maintenance and repair for no less than three years.

6

Store amalgam waste in airtight containers. All contact and non-contact amalgam scrap must be salvaged and stored in a structurally sound, tightly closed, appropriately labeled container.

7

Properly recycle amalgam waste. Collect and recycle, or manage as hazardous waste, all waste amalgam, elemental mercury, broken or unusable amalgam capsules, extracted teeth with amalgam, amalgam-containing waste from chairside traps, screens, vacuum filters, instruments and collection devices.

8

Keep records. All amalgam-related paperwork must be retained for no less than three years.

9

Train staff in proper handling, management, and disposal of mercury-containing materials. Maintain a training log and keep this log for at least three years.

10

Don't forget stormwater best management practices! Stormwater flows into streets and gutters picking up pollutants, such as oil, litter, and sediment, before it enters the storm drain system and travels to local creeks and the San Francisco Bay. Keep your parking lots, walkways, and refuse areas clean to help keep pollutants from entering our local waterways.