



# Fact Sheet

## EPA Dental Rule Compliance

### Dental Office Category, 40 CFR, Part 441

On June 14, 2017, the United State Environmental Protection Agency announced pretreatment standards to reduce discharges of mercury from dental offices into a publicly owned sanitary sewer system, officially referred to by EPA as Publicly Owned Treatment Works.

### Who does this rule apply to?

This rule applies to all dental offices with the following exceptions:

- Dental offices that discharge to POTWs that do not place or remove dental amalgam except in limited emergency, unplanned, unanticipated circumstances are exempt and need only submit a one-time compliance certification to the Control Authority no later than Oct. 12, 2020, or 90 days after a transfer of ownership.
- Dental dischargers that exclusively practice the following specialties are exempt from the rule:
  - Oral pathology
  - Oral and maxillofacial radiology
  - Oral and maxillofacial surgery
  - Orthodontics
  - Periodontics
  - Prosthodontics
- Mobile units are exempt from the rule.
- Dental offices that do not discharge their amalgam process wastewater into the POTW are exempt from the rule.

### What does the rule require of dental offices?

- Dental offices that discharge to POTWs but do not place or remove amalgam need only submit a one-time certification to the Control Authority or DEQ no later than Oct. 12, 2020, or 90 days after a transfer of ownership. Your Control Authority is either your local wastewater utility (POTW) if it has an approved Industrial Pretreatment Program, or the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.
- Dental offices that place or remove amalgam must operate and maintain an amalgam separator and must not discharge scrap amalgam to the POTW (e.g., by disposing of amalgam via sink drains or toilets).
- Dental offices that are required to have amalgam separators are prohibited from using certain kinds of line cleaners that are oxidizing or acidic, including but not limited to bleach, chlorine, iodine or peroxide. The line cleaners used must have a pH range of 6.0 – 8.0.
- Existing dental dischargers (dental offices that were in operation before July 14, 2017) must comply with the rule by July 14, 2020.
- New dental dischargers (dental offices that begin operating on or after July 14, 2017) must comply with the rule immediately.

#### Translation or other formats

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800-452-4011 | TTY: 711 | [deqinfo@deq.oregon.gov](mailto:deqinfo@deq.oregon.gov)

- Existing amalgam separators must be properly maintained and may be operated for their lifetime or ten years from the effective date of the rule (June 14, 2027), whichever is shorter. When a separator needs replacement, or the ten-year period has passed and the separator does not meet the standard of the final rule, a dental office must replace the separator with one that meets ISO 11143 (or ANSI/ADA 108-2009) standard (or equivalent) and a One-Time Compliance Report.
- **Deadline to Submit One-Time Compliance Report-** For existing dental dischargers, a One-Time Compliance Report must be submitted to the Control Authority or DEQ no later than Oct. 12, 2020, or 90 days after a transfer of ownership. For new dental dischargers, a One-Time Compliance Report must be submitted to the Control Authority or DEQ no later than 90 days following the introduction of wastewater into a POTW.
- The dental facility subject to this rule must maintain documents and make available for inspection in either physical or electronic form for a minimum of three years.
  1. Documents related to inspection of amalgam separators and follow-up actions;
  2. Documentation of amalgam retaining container or replacement, including date, if applicable;
  3. Documents related to dental amalgam pickup or shipment for proper disposal by a licensed storage or disposal facility;
  4. Documentation of any repair or replacement of an amalgam separator or device;
  5. Manufacturer's current operating manual for the device in place.

## What form is used for the One-Time Compliance Report?

DEQ has developed a single form, [One-Time Compliance Report for Dental Dischargers](#), for use by all dental offices required to submit a One-Time Compliance Report or One-Time Certification to their Control Authority or DEQ for compliance with the Dental Office.

## How do I know where to send my One-Time Compliance Report?

1. Dental offices need to check with their municipalities. If your municipality is served by a POTW with an approved Industrial Pretreatment Program, the name of the Control Authority and mailing address will be on the spreadsheet.
2. If your municipality is not listed, the Oregon DEQ is your Control Authority. Send your completed form to the following address:

### **Etsegenet Belete**

Oregon DEQ Pretreatment Program  
700 NE Multnomah St. Suite #600  
Portland OR 97232

### Related Links:

[Fact Sheet: Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for Dental Offices](#)  
[EPA Dental Effluent Guidelines](#)  
[Dental Amalgam Rule \(June 14, 2017\)](#)  
[Frequently Asked Questions on the Dental Office Category Rule](#)

## Non-discrimination statement

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Visit DEQ's [Civil Rights and Environmental Justice page](#).

## Control Authority Contacts and Mailing Addresses for Dental Rule Compliance Reporting

| Permittee                               | Address   | Telephone No.      |
|---|---|--------------------|
| City of Albany                          | 310 Waverly Dr. NE, Albany OR 97321                 | 541-497-6222       |
| City of Bend                            | 62975 Boyd Acres Rd, Bend OR 97701                  | 541-388-5546       |
| City of Canby                           | PO Box 930, Canby OR 97013                          | 503-266-0647       |
| Clackamas County WES                    | 15941 S. Agnes Ave., Bldg. B, Oregon City, OR 97045 | 503-742-4615       |
| City of Corvallis                       | PO Box 1083, Corvallis OR 97339                     | 541- 766-6916      |
| City of Dallas                          | 187 SE Court St, Dallas OR 97338                    | 541-831-3555       |
| City of Eugene                          | 410 River Ave, Eugene OR 97404                      | 541-682-8629       |
| City of Grants Pass                     | 1200 SW Greenwood Ave, Grants Pass OR               | 541-450-6123       |
| City of Gresham                         | 1333 NW Eastman Pkwy, Gresham OR 97030              | 503-618-2803       |
| City of Klamath Falls                   | PO Box 237, Klamath Falls OR 97601                  | 541-851-2402       |
| City of McMinnville                     | 3500 NE Clearwater Dr, McMinnville OR 97128         | 503-434-7313       |
| City of Medford                         | 1100 Kirtland Rd, Central Point OR 97502            | 541-774-2750       |
| City of Newberg                         | 2301 Wynooski Rd, Newberg OR 97132                  | 503-537-1252 x0224 |
| City of Portland BES                    | 6543 N Burlington Ave, Portland OR 97203            | 503-823-5600       |
| City of Redmond                         | 3100 NW 19th Street, Redmond OR 97756               | 541-504-5074       |
| Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority, RUSA | 3485 W Goedeck Rd, Roseburg, OR 97471               | 541-673-6570       |
| City of Salem                           | 1410 20th St., SE., Bldg. #2, Salem OR 97302        | 503-588-6647       |
| City of Springfield                     | 225 Fifth St, Springfield, OR 97477                 | 541-736-1018       |
| City of St Helens                       | PO Box 278, St Helens OR 97051                      | 503-366-8247       |
| City of The Dalles                      | 1215 W 1st St., The Dalles, OR 97058                | 541-506-2005       |
| City of Troutdale                       | 342 SW 4th ST, Troutdale, OR 97060                  | 503-674-3311       |
| Clean Water Services                    | 2550 SW Hillsboro Hwy, Hillsboro OR 97123           | 503-681-5124       |
| City of Wilsonville                     | 29799 SW Town Center Loop E., Wilsonville 97070     | 503-570-1551       |
| City of Woodburn                        | 2815 Molalla Rd, Woodburn OR 97071                  | 503-982-5283       |
| Oregon DEQ                              | 700 NE Multnomah ST. Suite 600 Portland OR 97232    | 503-229-5586       |