

## Summary of Dental Amalgam Rule

<p><b>What is the Dental Rule?</b><sup>1</sup></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requires dental offices that discharge wastewater that contains dental amalgam to Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) to install, inspect, and maintain a dental amalgam separator.</li> <li>• Requires the implementation of two best management practices (BMPs).</li> <li>• Published in Federal Register by EPA on June 14, 2017.</li> <li>• EPA estimates annual cost incurred by dental office: avg. of \$800 annually.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Why are standards needed?</b><sup>1</sup></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mercury from waste amalgam can end up in the environment from the POTW through incineration, landfilling, or land application.</li> <li>• Mercury – potent neurotoxin that causes wide range of health issues.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Who is affected by the Dental Rule?</b><sup>1</sup></p>	<p>Applies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental offices</li> <li>• Dental schools</li> <li>• Dental clinics</li> <li>• Government operated dental facilities</li> </ul>	<p>Does NOT apply to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mobile units</li> <li>• Practices consisting ONLY of these specialties: oral pathology, oral &amp; maxillofacial radiology/surgery, orthodontics, periodontics, or prosthodontics.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What kind of amalgam separator is required?</b><sup>2</sup></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An amalgam separator compliant with ISO11143 (2008).</li> <li>• ISO Standard is incorporated into the current American National Standards Institute’s (ANSI)/American Dental Association’s (ADA) Standard 108-2009 for Amalgam Separators.</li> <li>• Amalgam separator must achieve 95% removal efficiency and meet the standards by June14 2027.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>When will this rule affect dental offices?</b><sup>2</sup></p>	<p>The Effective Date of this rule is July 14, 2017.</p> <p>NEW dental offices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MUST return One-Time Compliance Report within 90 days following the introduction of wastewater to the sanitary sewer.</li> </ul> <p>TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MUST return One-Time Compliance Report within 90 days after a transfer of ownership.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>What steps are needed to be taken to come into compliance?</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Install new amalgam separator in offices that do not currently have one.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Inspect existing amalgam separators to make sure they are up to standard.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish internal documentation tracking procedures related to the inspection and maintenance of your amalgam separator.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Follow the ADA’s Best Management Practices for handling dental amalgam.</li> </ul>	

	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Complete the One-Time Compliance Report for Dental Discharges. MUST be returned to your Control Authority (City or KDHE via SEAP). Retain a copy of this report on site for the duration of your practice/ownership.</p>
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\*Taken and adapted with permission from Water Utilities Department, Arlington, TX

1. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Fact Sheet: Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for Dental Offices.
2. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Effluent Limitations Guidelines and Standards for the Dental Category.