

For more information about the Silver BMP Program :

PALS staff may be reached at the following phone numbers:

Environmental Coordinator
(214) 670-9725

Our Vision: To be an efficient provider of superior water and wastewater service and a leader in the water industry.



Help protect the environment for our children with silver recovery.



**City of Dallas Water Utilities Dept.
Pretreatment and Laboratory Services
Silver BMP Program
1020 Sargent Road Bldg. #2
Dallas, TX 75203
Tel (214) 670-6749
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*Dallas Water
Utilities Silver
Best Management
Practice
(Silver BMP)*

*Protect Our
Environment and
Support the Code
of Management
Practice and
Dallas Water
Utilities Silver
BMP*

Tel: (214) 670 6749

Dallas Water Utilities Silver BMP



The Silver BMP program for silver users regulated by the City of Dallas, Department of Water Utilities is based on a concept known as Best Management Practices. Best Management Practices are facility specific

plans implemented by an industry sector for the purpose of controlling and reducing certain pollutants—including those discharged to the wastewater treatment plant. A specific set of Best Management Practices has been developed for facilities processing radiographic and photographic film and paper.

These Best Management Practices for silver imaging facilities have been codified into a program called the Code of Management Practice for Silver Dischargers. This BMP for silver-imaging facilities was developed by the Silver Council and the Association of Metropolitan Sewerage Agencies (AMSA) to reduce and control the amount of silver discharged to the local wastewater treatment plant. The Code of Management Practice (CMP) has been adopted by

cities of varying sizes across the United States. It has proven successful in 1) reducing the amount of silver discharged to the wastewater treatment facility; 2) increasing the amount of silver recovered; 3) easing the administrative burden on both the wastewater treatment facility and silver users; 4) encouraging water conservation and pollution prevention efforts.

BMP presents an alternative method of controlling silver discharges from image processors. It does not rely on typical concentration based (numerical) discharge limits that are used by most wastewater treatment facilities or Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTWs) to control the amount of silver discharged by silver users. With concentration-based limits, all facilities generating silver-bearing waste must comply with the same regulations, regardless of the amount of silver-bearing waste they generate. Under the BMP, each facility has a recommended performance category or percentage of silver they must recover from their silver-bearing wastes depending on the total gallons per day (gpd) of photo processing effluent they generate. **The limit for silver discharged to the sanitary sewer for the City of Dallas is 4 parts per million. Those facilities not in the program may be inspected, monitored, and possibly permitted to discharge to the sanitary sewer system with strict compliance, reporting, and discharge limits.**

The BMP establishes a set of operating procedures designed to reduce both the amount of silver and the overall volume of solution discharged to the drain while using economically viable and currently available silver recovery techniques.

How to Participate in the Program:



Notify Dallas Water Utilities Pretreatment and Laboratory Services Division (PALS) that you

wish to participate in the Silver BMP program. An annual letter of participation will be submitted to you at the end of each year that is due January 31st. There are two options to silver recovery:

1) On-Site treatment is the treatment of silver bearing waste streams before it is discharged down the drain. To be compliant with the program small users discharging less than or equal to 10,000 gpd of total process effluent **OR** less than or equal to 20 gpd of silver-rich solution must recover 95% of the silver discharged down the drain. Large users discharging more than 10,000 gpd but less than 25,000 gpd of total process effluent **OR** more than 20 gpd of silver-rich solution must recover 99% of the silver discharged down the drain.

2) Off-site disposal is simply having the silver waste shipped off by a certified disposer.

Facilities that submit the required annual **Letter of Participation** will receive a certificate indicating they are in compliance with the required local provisions and are acting to benefit the local environment.

Other requirements apply so please contact PALS about the Silver BMP.