

**CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO WATER DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL SECTION**
399 CHANDLER PLACE, SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408
OFFICE # (909) 384-5383 - FAX # (909) 384-5258



To: All Silver Waste Generators

From: Andy Coady, Environmental Control Officer

Subject: **SILVER WASTE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

The City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department (SBMWD) Environmental Control Section (EC Section) regulates wastewater discharged to the SBMWD Water Reclamation Plant (WRP). Wastewater generated from photo processors, x-rays units, and any other silver laden wastewater is required to meet the discharge requirements specified in SBMC 13.32. All wastewater discharged to the WRP is required to meet a 2.5 mg/L silver limit.

All facilities which process film, x-rays or generate silver laden wastewater are required to submit an Industrial User permit application to the EC Section. The application is reviewed to determine if an Industrial User permit will be issued. Facilities which discharge silver laden wastewater to the WRP are required to install a silver recovery pretreatment system capable of removing silver from the wastewater to meet the required discharge limit. Permitted facilities are inspected and monitored annually by the EC Section to verify the silver recovery system is operating effectively.

Small generators of silver waste who do not discharge any silver laden wastewater to the WRP may choose to participate in the Silver Waste Minimization Program administered by the EC Section. This option is available to facilities which generate less than 25 gallons of waste each month. These facilities are issued a Control Number instead of an Industrial User Permit. Participants of the Silver Waste program are permitted to bring a maximum of 25 gallons of silver laden wastewater each month to the WRP for disposal. San Bernardino County hazardous waste regulations limit the transported waste to 5 gallons per trip.

The Silver Waste Minimization Program is available to facilities located within the San Bernardino service area. A monthly service calendar, 5 gallon containers, and labels are provided to each participant. Each delivery of silver waste is documented on a waste manifest form completed by the EC Section. Periodic site visits may be conducted at each facility to verify the participant continues to meet the program requirements.

For additional information, please contact a member of the EC Section staff at (909) 384-5383. Thank you for your cooperation.