



## EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT GUIDELINES FOR FILM PROCESSORS/PRINTERS

All film processing and printing facilities shall exercise the Best Management Practices in Section II. Facilities generating silver rich wastewater (fix, bleach-fix, washless stabilizer and low flow wash) shall comply with the Treatment Requirements in Section I.

**I. TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS:** All silver rich wastewater (fix, bleach-fix, washless stabilizer and low flow wash) shall receive treatment prior to discharge. Dilution is not allowed as a form of treatment. All wastewater shall be in compliance with EBMUD Ordinance No. 311A-03. The following minimum operating requirements shall be met:

- A. The treatment system shall be operated and maintained according to manufacturer's specifications including, but not be limited to, replacing and servicing components at the specified frequency.
- B. Any pretreatment system components shall be dated upon replacement or service.
- C. No silver rich solution (fix, bleach-fix, washless stabilizer and low flow wash) shall bypass the treatment system prior to discharge to the community sewer. Any overflow shall be pumped back into the treatment system for silver removal.

**II. BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES: Best management practices shall be employed to promote pollution prevention and minimize pollutants discharged to the community sewer.**

- A. Review waste generating process and practices to identify pollution prevention opportunities to reduce pollutant loadings. The review shall include, but not be limited to:
  - improved operating practices (e.g. segregate streams; schedule work to avoid cleanings associated with color changing.)
  - material substitution (e.g. use less toxic materials in smaller amounts)
  - process modification (e.g. use computer to plate if feasible; turn off rinsewater when not in use).
- B. Perform weekly inspections on film processing and pretreatment equipment to ensure proper operating condition. At a minimum, the equipment shall be checked for the following:
  - Hose leak.
  - Tank overflow.
  - Squeegees with proper edges to minimize drag-out.
  - Replenisher tank rupture.
  - Rinsewater flow rate.
  - Treated wastewater from each cartridge must be tested weekly using a silver test strip sensitive to at least 5 ppm. Discharge must be immediately discontinued and the cartridge replaced when the silver test strip shows increased silver levels, indicating the cartridge is no longer effectively removing silver.
- C. Maintain on-site for no less than three (3) years records of equipment inspections and maintenance records including, but not be limited to, change-out dates and service dates of pretreatment system components, and all waste-hauling manifests.
- D. Train employees in proper equipment operating and chemical handling procedures. The procedures shall include the following, at a minimum:
  - All chemicals shall be properly labeled.
  - Efficient chemical inventory to avoid expiration of chemicals.
- E. Chemicals shall be protected from spilling into the community sewer (e.g. use secondary containment). The facility shall have a clean-up procedure in place in case of spill. Any absorbents to be used in cleanup must be in sufficient quantity.
- F. Post a sign in the work area indicating that untreated silver rich wastewater (fix, bleach-fix, washless stabilizer and low flow wash) is prohibited from discharging to the sewer.



**DISCHARGE OF  
UNTREATED WASTE FIXER  
TO THE SEWER IS  
PROHIBITED**

**RECYCLE SILVER  
Help Keep the Bay Clean!**

**IN CASE OF SPILL, Call 510 287-1651  
Or 1-866-40EBMUD non-business hours**

