

## **PHOTO/X-RAY PROCESSING CHEMICALS & WASTE**

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**PHOTO/X-RAY PROCESSING produces spent fixer and developer. Spent fixer contains silver, which must be recovered before the liquid can be discharged to the sewer.**



**The silver that collects in the fixer solution during photographic or X-ray film processing is toxic and cannot be discharged to the sewer. Therefore, silver recovery units have been installed at all NYU photo/x-ray processing locations.**

### **REQUIREMENTS FOR DISPOSAL OF PHOTO/X-RAY PROCESSING CHEMICALS:**

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- ❑ **All spent fixer from the photo/X-ray processing must be passed through a silver recovery unit prior to being discharged to the sewer.**
- ❑ **NYU's silver recovery contractor inspects and services or replaces all silver recovery units on a quarterly basis.**
- ❑ **In some areas, where it is not possible to install a recovery unit in line with the photo/X-ray processor, the fixer is collected into suitable, labeled containers and brought to a nearby recovery unit before discharge.**

### **IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A SILVER RECOVERY UNIT IN PLACE:**

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- ❑ **If you conduct photo/X-ray processing but do not have a silver recovery unit, call Environmental Services immediately.**
- ❑ **Do not discharge spent fixer to the sewer – collect in suitable containers.**
- ❑ **Environmental Services will assess your operation and, if necessary, have a silver recovery unit installed and added to the service list.**

### **REMEMBER:**

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- ❑ **Spent Fixer that contains silver cannot be discharged to the drain.**
- ❑ **Silver recovery is required where photo/X-ray processing is conducted.**
- ❑ **If you do not have a silver recovery unit, contact Environmental Services.**