PHOTO/X-RAY PROCESSING CHEMICALS & WASTE

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:

- 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:

- 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:

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