
The Good DEED Program

Dedicated to Environmental
Excellence in Dentistry

Gold and Green

May 31, 2010

Ohio Dental Association

OHIO DENTAL ASSOCIATION
Informing - Representing - Serving



With support from the Office of Compliance
Assistance and Pollution Prevention



Helping Ohioans comply with environmental
regulations and reduce waste at the source.

Dedicated to Environmental Excellence in Dentistry Program Gold and Green Tier – BMPs plus Sustainable Dentistry

The Good DEED (Dedicated to Environmental Excellence in Dentistry) program is an easy to participate and voluntary program to recognize the efforts of dental offices to operate in an environmentally responsible manner.

The Gold and Green Tier of recognition is for dental offices that are pursuing more environmentally sustainable activities in addition to meeting environmental regulations and traditional BMPs. These sustainable practices are worth implementing even if the dentist is not seeking recognition for their efforts.

This tier may be pursued at any time by dentists that have completed Good DEED Gold Tier. The Gold and Green Tier recognizes those dentists that are going beyond compliance by recycling their dental office wastes and pursuing at least ten (10) additional pollution prevention practices.

New types of environmentally friendly projects are encouraged and new ideas will be shared with other dentists to help them identify the great range of possibilities to make you dental practice more environmentally friendly.

Participants at the sustainable level receive a certificate from the ODA and are recognized on the Environmentally Responsible Dentist Web page. The Certificate for Tier 2 can include an Environmental Policy Statement created specifically for the Dental Practice, allowing dentists to individualize their certificate and share their philosophy with staff and customers.

The recognition certificate is reissued every two years. The dental facility reaffirms its dedication to operating an environmentally responsible practice and provides an update on projects that it is pursuing to be more sustainable.

Recognition of Environmentally Responsible and Sustainable Dentistry

- Complete the Gold Tier – ADA BMPs and Ohio Regulations
- Have an established recycling program in place for your dental practice wastes
- Complete 10 additional environmental sustainability BMPs (a list of examples is included).
- You may choose to create an environmental policy statement to individualize your practice's philosophy toward achieving sustainability (optional)

RECYCLING PROGRAMS

Dental offices should evaluate opportunities to reduce waste, recycle materials and buy recycled-content products. If materials use cannot be reduced, the best option is to recycle the material. Many materials used by dental offices can be recycled. In some cases recycling materials like mercury, lead, and fluorescent lamps, can reduce your regulatory requirements as well.

The value of some recyclables, like office paper and aluminum, can help pay for the recycling of other types of materials. To receive recognition at the Sustainable Tier of the program, dental offices should have the following recycling programs in place.

BMP Description	Yes (√) Or N/A
RECYCLING PROGRAMS	
You have a recycling program in place for office paper.	
You have a recycling program in place for lead (foils and shielding).	
You have a recycling program in place for amalgam.	
If using film based radiography, you have a recycling program in place for fixer, developer solution, and used x-ray tubes.	

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

There are many opportunities for dental offices to operate in more environmentally responsible ways. Below is a list of more environmentally sustainable practices an office can pursue, including additional recycling opportunities.

The sections below are divided into practices that are specific to dental offices and practices that any business could pursue to be more environmentally sustainable. All the following practices are optional but recommended BMPs.

At the end of the checklist there is a space dedicated for you to provide BMPs that your office uses that are not already on the list. Information from this section will be used to expand the appropriate sections of the Good DEED document and provide other dental offices with ideas.

Acknowledge your recycling activities and indicate which 10 BMPs you are following or add to the list of BMPs and be recognized for your contribution to environmentally responsible and sustainable dentistry.

BMP Description	Yes (✓) Or N/A
ENVIRONMENTALLY AWARE DENTAL PRACTICES	
<p>You clean and, as needed, replace mercury-laden pipes and plumbing fixtures. It is worthwhile to clean and update plumbing after installation of new amalgam separators or other mercury control equipment.</p> <p>Note: Through years of dental practice, mercury settles at low points, such as sink traps and sumps, and is slowly released into the wastewater for years after disposal practices have been corrected. Whenever plumbing parts are moved or cleaned be sure to avoid spilling the contents in case amalgam or mercury is present.</p>	
<p>You use a dry vacuum system at your practice. A dry vacuum system could save more than 24,000 gallons of water annually. It is critical to have an amalgam separator with dry vacuum systems.</p>	
<p>You use digital radiography/panoramic X-ray units and photography to minimize the use of film processing chemicals (silver-containing radiographic fixer solution) and lead foil.</p>	
<p>You use reusable barrier gowns.</p>	
<p>You use lead free aprons, e.g. Demron</p>	
<p>You use cotton towels and bibs instead of disposable plastic or paper patient bibs and launder after use.</p>	
<p>You use stainless steel endodontic suction tips.</p>	
<p>You use glass irrigation syringe as a substitute for disposable plastic.</p>	
<p>You have a paperless dental practice.</p>	
<p>You use steam sterilization for your instruments, saving energy and not using hazardous chemicals.</p>	
<p>You are working with the municipal POTW on a community mercury reduction committee.</p>	
<p>You have an agreement with your pharmaceutical companies for them to take back old or unnecessary medicines, especially more hazardous pharmaceuticals such as cresols, lindane, and mercury-based preservatives.</p>	
<p>You recycle other materials such as shredded patient information, cardboard, mixed papers, plastics, aluminum and glass from your practice.</p>	
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY	
<p>You monitor and record:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • water use; • energy consumption; and • solid and hazardous waste generation. <p>With these records you've developed a plan to reduce your consumption and waste generation.</p>	
<p>You use Energy Star appliances, programmable thermostats, and have implemented other energy efficiency improvements.</p>	
<p>You unplug appliances when not in use and turn off lights when not in the room</p>	
<p>You have installed solar shades</p>	
<p>You have installed automatic hand dryers in restrooms.</p>	
<p>You use low-flow plumbing/faucet fixtures that are sensor operated.</p>	
<p>You have had your local energy utility or an energy service contractor conduct a commercial energy assessment.</p>	
<p>You use double-sided printing.</p>	
<p>You use biodegradable disposable cups.</p>	

Your housekeeping staff use green cleaning products.	
Your landscape is designed and maintained in an environmentally friendly manner. When landscaping use native plants and other plants and land cover that need less water, place vegetation so that it can protect your business from seasonal weather conditions (such as shade trees), and follow other eco-friendly landscaping practices.	
You use alternative practices to pesticides for caring for office lawn and/or landscaping.	
ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERABLE PURCHASING	
You purchase materials with a high post-consumer recycled content or used materials/products for your business.	
You use chlorine free paper that has a high post-consumer recycled content for your office paper and business cards.	
You use E-PEAT rated computers (http://www.epeat.net/).	
You purchase materials and products that are designed to be recycled at the end of their useful lives.	
You choose furniture made in an environmentally friendly manner.	
You use energy efficient low-mercury lighting, such as LED lamps and green-marked T5, T8, and/or compact fluorescent lamps.	
When purchasing button cell batteries, you choose mercury-free batteries	
You have replaced mercury-containing equipment with aneroid digital equipment, e.g. thermometers and sphygmomanometers.	
You use environmentally-friendly flooring such as some of the eco-friendly linoleums, cork or bamboo.	
You use ultra-low VOC paint when painting rooms	
You purchase green/renewable energy from geothermal, solar or wind sources (through your electric utility).	

OTHER PRACTICES PURSUED

Please provide BMPs that your office uses that are not listed, add additional pages if necessary. Information from this section will be used to expand the appropriate sections of the Good DEED document and provide other dental offices with ideas and opportunities to operate a more sustainable dental office.

BMP Description – Add description	Section	Yes (√) Or N/A

Total Number of Optional Best Management Practices Implemented	
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ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT - Optional

The Environmental Policy Statement memorializes the dental office's commitment to environmentally stewardship and communicates the goals of the practice with respect to the environmental aspects of the organization's products, services and/or activities.

Generally, a policy statement would:

1. Be appropriate to the dental office's environmental impacts; and
2. Demonstrate a commitment to continual improvement, pollution prevention and compliance with environmental regulations.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT - Optional

The Environmental Policy Statement will be incorporated into the certificate recognizing the dental office as participating at the Good DEED Gold and Green tier. Information on developing an environmental policy statement is available at www.epa.gov/opptintr/dfe/pubs/iems/tools/policy.pdf

RECOGNITION

If the recycling BMPs and 10 optional BMPs are implemented, your office will be recognized as a Leader in Sustainable Dentistry in Ohio on the certificate and participant Web page list.

To apply for Recognition for Environmentally Responsible and Sustainable Dentistry – Gold and Green Tier:

1. Complete checklist and mail it to the Good DEED Administrator (If multiple locations, complete one checklist for each office location that qualifies); or
2. A. Complete the Good DEED Gold Tier requirements
B. Provide a list of the recycling best management practices and the 10 other environmentally sustainable best management practices that your facility has implemented.

Contact information should include:

Name of dental facility:

Names of dentists at the facility:

Street address:

Mailing address:

City and ZIP Code:

_____, OH _____

Phone number:

Web page Address:

E-mail address:

Number of chairs at the dental practice: _____

Send application to “Good DEED Administrator” at ODA or mail application to:

Good DEED Administrator
Ohio Dental Association
1370 Dublin Rd
Columbus, OH 43215-1098

If you have any questions call the Ohio Dental Association at 614-486-2700 or Bill Narotski, OCAPP, at 800-329-7518.