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“Any efforts to ensure the safety of the environment for future generations is a plus.”

--Dr. John J. Bial

By implementing forward-thinking hazardous waste policies and procedures, Dr. John J. Bial's dental practice has earned EnviroStars certification. Not only has the office taken many steps to handle its waste appropriately, but Dr. Bial and his staff have also set goals to prevent pollution.

As Dr. Bial says, “Any efforts to ensure the safety of the environment for future generations is a plus.”

Dental offices generate small quantities of various hazardous wastes. Dr. Bial's office appropriately handles the wastes it generates by taking them to the Kitsap County Moderate Risk Waste (MRW) Facility or by contracting with a reputable waste collector. For example, wastes such as amalgam and disinfecting solution go to the MRW Facility, fixer from the x-ray machine is taken to a photo processing company, and spent fluorescent lamps are recycled through a licensed vendor.

Dr. Bial also takes steps to *reduce* hazardous waste generated by his office. He has eliminated gluteraldehyde, a flammable sterilizing chemical which poses a potential risk when put into the



Dr. John J. Bial and his dedicated pollution prevention staff.

sewer system, and replaced it with an ultrasonic cleaner. He also plans to reduce the toxicity of wastewater from his office by installing an amalgam wastewater separation unit. These units remove most mercury from amalgam waste before it goes down the drain.

“Dr. Bial and his staff want to do everything they can to protect the environment and inform their patients about the proactive steps they have taken,” said Ryan Kellogg, EnviroStars Program Coordinator. “We appreciate the extra steps the office is taking to safeguard our health and environment.”