
Dr. Kregg Hoover, D.D.S.

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“Having my questions answered by the representative gave me peace of mind.”

—Muriel Ames
Dental Assistant

Congratulations to Dr. Hoover’s dental office for recently becoming a 5-star EnviroStars-certified business. The EnviroStar program recognizes businesses that reduce hazardous waste. By handling their hazardous and solid waste in an environmentally sound manner, Dr. Hoover is setting an excellent example to other dental offices in the community.



Muriel Ames, a dental assistant with Dr. Hoover, led the effort to certify the office as an EnviroStars business. For nearly six months, Muriel worked with EnviroStars representative Sarah Brace to meet the 5-star requirements for the office before becoming certified. “I was impressed with all of the kind encouragement I received while going through the process.” said Muriel.

The types of hazardous waste generated by dental offices include mercury (used in amalgam fillings), x-ray film fixative, lead foils and aprons, sterilants and cleaning solutions. Dr. Hoover’s office recently installed an amalgam wastewater separation unit which removes mercury from the wastewater. Fixative from the x-ray development process is collected and recycled by a certified hauler. The office no longer uses the cold sterilant glutaraldehyde; instead, all dental tools are sterilized with a steam autoclave. Lead from x-ray film packaging and aprons is recycled through a local hazardous

waste vendor. Cleaning solutions used are the least toxic products available. All of these steps are significant in reducing the amount of hazardous waste entering the environment.

Other ways that the office is helping the environment is by recycling office paper, magazines and cardboard. Muriel worked with the building manager to procure a cardboard recycling dumpster for the medical center. She has also set up addition office recycling for cans and bottles and brings these to a local recycling facility.

As enthusiastic advocates for the EnviroStars Program, Dr. Hoover and his staff have been telling colleagues in other dental offices about the benefits of the program. “I tell folks how impressed I am with all the help that is available through the EnviroStars Program” Muriel reports.