

# REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENT & SAFETY COMMITTEE

2024

## Members

R. David Resch, Chair; Scott Lingle; Nathan Pedersen; Scott Wagnild, BOT Liaison; Hanna Nguyen-Dao, MDA Staff; Carmelo Cinqueonce, Ex-officio.

## Duties

Pursuant to the Committee Policy Manual as determined by the Board of Trustees, it is the duty of this committee to:

1. Address dental materials and dental environmental waste issues, including best management practices, materials recycling, hazardous waste compliance, and the Minnesota Voluntary Amalgam Separator Program.
2. Coordinate dentistry's involvement within a Minnesota network of emergency preparedness and disaster response services.
3. Address Minnesota radiation regulations.
4. Address dental office workplace safety matters (OSHA, ergonomics, etc.).
5. Address abuse of prescription drugs, our role in prevention and networking with other professionals.
6. Compile and/or develop related resources appropriate to these areas of focus.
7. Provide leadership and deliver results of value to MDA members.

## Activities

The committee is pleased to report on another year of dedicated activity and progress. The committee focused on reviewing and updating the MDA Hazardous Waste Manual, as well as following the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) X-Ray Unit for changes and updating the MDA Radiation Safety Manual as needed.

The committee reviewed, provided input, and communicated updates from the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Amalgam Recovery Program.

## Conclusion

The chair would like to thank the committee members; the MDH X-ray Unit Radiation Specialists, Bevin Beaver and Craig Verke; and the MDA officers and trustees.

The members of this committee value the atmosphere of common interest to function effectively and efficiently. We appreciate the support we continue to receive for our endeavors.

## Recommendations

- Continue development of comprehensive programs to educate our members on how to successfully comply with rules and regulations in Minnesota.
- Continue to work on updating current MDA resources.

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- Introduce members to “The Safest Dental Visit” by the Association for Dental Safety (ADS), (formally known as OSAP) and have them become practitioners of excellent infection control practices in their offices.
- Continue bringing education opportunities to members and their teams to follow and be in compliance with rules and regulations in Minnesota.

Submitted by:

R. David Resch D.D.S.  
Chair

Hanna Nguyen-Dao, RDH  
MDA Staff