

## What's the big deal?

Collection Systems (sewer) and Wastewater Treatment Plants (WWTP) are designed to transport and treat certain types of wastewater. Sometimes it just isn't appropriate (or legal) to flush a particular liquid or solid down the drain. Not only does this practice endanger the environment, but it can also endanger the lives of Town citizens and employees. A series of brochures has been developed to educate specific industries on the proper disposal of various wastewaters they might generate.

**Contact the  
Pretreatment Section  
for more information**

Additional Agencies to Contact for Assistance:

NC Division of Waste Management  
([deq.nc.gov](http://deq.nc.gov))

NC Division of Pollution Prevention and Environmental Assistance  
([deq.nc.gov](http://deq.nc.gov))

Watauga County Sanitation Office  
(264-5305)

Acknowledgements: DC Dept of Environment  
NC Pretreatment Consortium Conference

Pretreatment Section  
PO Drawer 192  
Boone, NC 28607



Phone: 828-268-6270  
Fax: 828-268-6279  
[www.townofboone.net](http://www.townofboone.net)

# Town of Boone



## Wastewater Disposal Considerations

**For Human and  
Animal Health  
Service  
Providers**



## Pollutants of Concern

Mercury thermometers

Legacy Mercury

Sterilization solutions  
(toxics and heavy metals)

Laboratory chemicals  
(toxics, solvents and heavy metals)

Radioactive wastes

Whole Blood

Expired pharmaceuticals

Decontamination waters



## How Healthcare Can Help

Dispose of obsolete, mercury-containing equipment and replace with mercury-free alternatives

Keep pharmaceuticals out of the sewer

Explore test kits that reduce chemical use and disposal to sewer

Use autoclaves to disinfect equipment



Use digital x-ray imaging

Plug or protect drains from spills, both large and small

Keep up with new technology in healthcare wastewater treatment

Manage hazardous wastes properly

Contact the Town for permission to discharge specific wastes to sewer

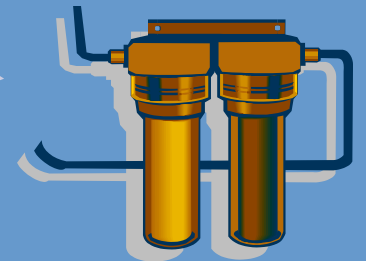
## Pretreatment Info

Pretreatment: The reduction of the amount of pollutants, the elimination of pollutants, or the alteration of the nature of pollutant properties in wastewater prior to or in lieu of discharging or otherwise introducing such pollutants into a POTW (collection system and WWTP).

### Typical Pretreatment in Healthcare

Good housekeeping, cleaning product substitution, chemical substitution, proper hazardous waste management, silver recovery unit, etc.

Each facility is unique, and will have its own pretreatment options/needs. Please contact the Pretreatment Section for further assistance.



**Prevention is the key to success!**