



Missouri Radiation Control Program Guidance Document/Frequently Asked Question

See below for regulatory guidance on the following issue. If you have additional questions, you may contact the Missouri Radiation Control Program at MRCP@health.mo.gov or 573-751-6083

What must be done to properly dispose of old x-ray equipment? (updated August 2015)

- **First, notify the Missouri Radiation Control Program in writing:** State law requires that the department be notified in writing whenever there is a change in the status of the equipment. If the equipment is removed, disposed of, relocated, placed in storage, rendered inoperable, or if the ownership of the equipment changes. See below for statutory and regulatory references:
 - It is unlawful for any person to produce radiation, or produce, use, store or ***dispose of...radiation machines***, or to modify, extend or alter these activities unless he registers in writing with the department of health and senior services in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the department. 192.440.1, RSMo.
 - 19 CASR 20-10.030(2) The user shall notify the department in writing within (30) days of any change with respect to his/her radiation sources which may substantially increase or decrease the potential for personnel exposure.
- Beyond notifying MRCP in writing of the deposition of the equipment, there is no radiation safety issue with disposal of the machine itself. If the x-ray machine is not powered on, it does not produce radiation. *However*, in some older equipment, coolant used in the equipment may be classified as hazardous waste and require specialized disposal, per MO DNR requirements. Please see the Missouri Department of Natural Resources publication #2502, "Disposal of X-ray Equipment," produced in conjunction with the Missouri Radiation Control Program <http://dnr.mo.gov/pubs/pub2502.htm>
- Because of the potential for hazardous waste disposal issues as noted above, in most cases, if possible the most appropriate solution is to contact and have an x-ray service company vendor disassemble and remove the equipment professionally, although other disposal methods may be possible, per MO DNR document #2502 referenced above.

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