

Office of Radiological Health

X-RAY BULLETIN

January 10, 2009

ORH-730: Guidance on the Disposal of X-ray Equipment Reissued Dec. 5, 2018

According to the *Radiation Protection Regulations*, the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Radiological Health, requires facilities that own radiation equipment to register, inspect, and certify their equipment. If facilities decide to discontinue use of this equipment, they must notify this office, and the equipment will be placed on inactive status. As long as the facility maintains ownership of the device, whether in use or in storage, the Division of Radiological Health, keeps the information of the unit in an electronic database. Periodically, this office sends correspondence to these facilities to determine the status of this equipment. If the facility decides to dispose of the unit, the facility must notify this office, **in writing**. Facilities have the following options to dispose of their equipment:

1. Facilities may contact other facilities that may wish to purchase the equipment. If this occurs, you must notify this office of this change of ownership.
2. Facilities may contact the x-ray company used to service their equipment to determine if they wish to obtain the equipment. Additional x-ray companies can be contacted by using your local telephone directory. If this occurs, you must notify this office of this change in ownership.
3. Facilities may donate their equipment to local charities, for example:
 - Physician for Peace, 520 W. 21st Street, Suite G2103, Norfolk, VA 23517
 - Project Hope, 255 Carter Hall Lane, Millwood, VA 22646
 - Gleaning for the World, P.O. Box 645, Concord, VA 24538
 - Operation Blessing International, 977 Centerville Turnpike, Virginia Beach, VA 23463
4. Facilities may dispose of the equipment in a local landfill. The local landfill should be contacted to determine how the equipment can be properly disposed of. Please remember there is no radiation hazard. X-Ray equipment is like an electric light bulb; only when electricity has been applied to the x-ray tube and the exposure switch is engaged, is radiation produced. However, there may be a hazard with the oil contained within the tube head assembly. The oil may need to be removed and recycled. Oil manufactured prior to the 1970's may contain PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls). Again, if this occurs, you must notify this office of this change in status.