



LATEX PAINT IS NOT HAZARDOUS WASTE

Did you know...Thousands of tax dollars are spent each year disposing of latex paint as hazardous; when in fact, it is not! Please do not bring latex paint to hazardous waste collection sites. **Instead...**

Use it Up!

Small amounts of paint can be mixed with other colors or bulked together and used as a primer coat or on jobs where the final finish is not critical.

Avoid creating waste at the start. Buy only what you need. One gallon of paint will cover between 250 and 350 square feet, depending on the porosity of the surface to be covered. A gallon of paint will cover closer to 250 square feet of surface area if it is more porous.

Dry it Up!

Latex paint may be safely disposed of in your regular household trash.

The paint remaining in the can must be dry before being placed into the trash. Please be sure that your paint is completely solidified. Liquid paint can spill while awaiting collection or during the collection process; paint leaking into trucks and onto roadways poses tremendous cleanup challenges.

Cans 1/4 or less full	Cans more than 1/4 full
Simply remove the lid and place the can in a safe, well-ventilated area. Cans that are 1/4 or less full will dry in a few days.	Waste paint hardener is available at most area hardware stores. Mulch, kitty litter, or shredded paper may also be used as a bulking/drying agent. Protect your work surface by lining it with old newspaper.

Pass it On!

Donate unopened cans of paint. Many schools, religious groups, community groups, and theater groups will accept unopened cans of paint, especially white paint. Even a neighbor may need some extra paint. Also, check your paint store's policy on returning unopened cans of paint.



For additional information, please contact the Charles County Division of Environmental Resources at 301-932-3599

Please ... **Reuse or recycle this flier**



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