

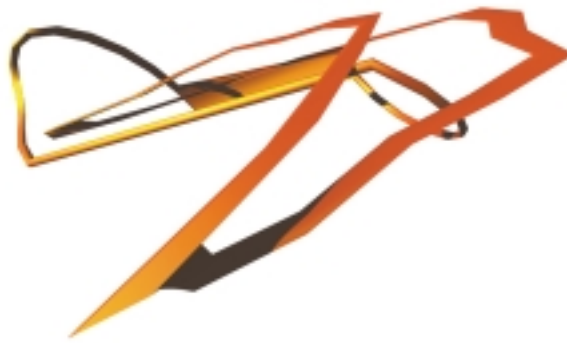


BUYING PAINT THE “GREEN” WAY

- ▶ Estimate needs carefully. Mix and tint only what will be used.
- ▶ Buy water-based paint whenever possible. Oil-based paints release harmful fumes and require solvents for cleanup.
- ▶ Buy recycled paints when available in the desired colors and grades.
(for locations see back of brochure)
- ▶ Choose paints and thinners that do not contain toxic ingredients such as mercury or methylene chloride.
- ▶ **For contractors:**
Consider charging an “environmental fee” to cover time and disposal costs if customers insist on oil-based paints.

Lead Hazards

Lead-based paint was used in residential housing until 1978. Inhaling microscopic lead particles can cause neurological damage. Children are especially susceptible. Only certified contractors should strip and handle material painted with lead-based paint.



Hazardous Waste Collection Programs

There are three fixed household hazardous waste collection facilities in the Vancouver area where you can take your unwanted waste for no charge (25 gallon limit) during the hours specified:

:: Central Transfer and Recycling Center
11034 NE 117th Avenue; Vancouver • (360) 256-8482
Saturday & Sunday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

:: West Van Materials Recovery Center
6601 NW Old Lower River Road; Vancouver • (360) 737-1727
Friday & Saturday, 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

:: Burlington Environmental, Inc.
625 S. 32nd. St.; Washougal • (360) 835-8594
1st Tuesday of the month, 10:00 am to 3 pm.

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**For a local distributor of recycled paint,
visit the following locations:**

www.metro-region.org/library_docs/recycling/metro_paint.pdf

- OR -

:: Environmental Building Supplies
8193 E. Taylor • Portland, OR

:: The Habitat for Humanities Re-Store
1814 N. Columbia • Portland, OR

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[printed on recycled paper]



MANAGE YOUR PAINT



PROTECT YOUR WATER



It's your water



Use, Reuse and Recycle Paint

- ▶ Consider applying an additional coat with any remaining paint.
- ▶ Arrange for a paint store or distributor to take back unused or unopened paints.
- ▶ Donate remaining paint to schools, theaters, churches or graffiti projects.
- ▶ Reuse thinners and solvents by filtering out particles or allowing particles to settle.

Dos and Don'ts of Paint Disposal

DON'T put liquid paint or solvents into the trash.

DO dispose of the dry empty containers.

DON'T air-dry oil based paints as the fumes are toxic.

DO open water-based paint containers and allow to dry before disposing in the trash.

DON'T pour remaining paint into sanitary sewers, storm sewers, gutters, catch basins, dry wells, creeks or other surface water.

DO allow paint brushes and absorbent materials to dry thoroughly before disposing in the garbage.



It's my Water too



TIP:

Keep water-based and oil-based paints separate. Mixing these together makes recycling impossible.

TO DISPOSE OF HAZARDOUS PAINTING MATERIALS



The following can be brought to a Hazardous Waste Collection Center:

- Strippers, thinners and solvents
- Oil-based paints, stains and varnish
- Containers with some liquid contents
- Paint chips containing lead or mercury

(for locations see back of brochure)

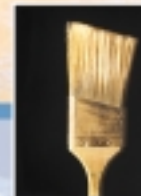
TIP: Paint out brushes and rollers as much as possible before cleaning.



Cleaning Brushes and Painting Equipment

Water-based paint: Rinse brushes and equipment with water, preferably in a sink connected to sanitary sewer. If sanitary sewer is not accessible, for the occasional residential paint project the brushes may be rinsed to the ground on the owner's property.

Oil-based: Reuse solvents/thinners for clean-up and store properly. Look for less toxic alternatives in paints, solvents and thinners. **DO NOT** dump oil-based paints or solvents down sinks.



Storing Paint Materials

Cover and seal materials tightly and store in a covered area away from floor drains, street drains and the gutter.

Store strippers, thinners and solvents in a well-ventilated area away from water heaters and other ignition sources.

