

Can My Paint Be REUSED?

Can My Paint Be Reused by Someone Else?

The Hazardous Materials Management Program donates reusable paint and other products through its product reuse program. The following guidelines are used to determine if paint is acceptable for reuse:

- Keep paint in the original container with the original label. The label must be intact so the next consumer can be informed on proper handling.
- Paint must be in its original condition. Any paint that has been altered, thinned or had any sort of additive mixed with it cannot be accepted for reuse.
- Paint must never have been frozen. When latex paint freezes it sours (smells like sour milk) and separates into liquids and solids.
- Paint can must be half-full or more.
- Paint must be less than 4 years old. Latex paint can deteriorate or sour after a few years.

Other Important INFORMATION

Residential Wastes

Serves residents of Boulder County, City and County of Broomfield, and the Town of Erie. This program is funded by municipalities based on participation by their residents. Hazardous materials drop-off is free to residents, although donations are accepted. Please bring a driver's license or other proof of residency.

Business Wastes

By appointment ONLY, the HMM facility accepts wastes from Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator (CESQG) businesses including non-profit agencies, churches, clubs, etc. Fees are charged based on the type of waste and quantity.

Hazardous Materials Management Facility

1901 c 63rd Street, Boulder—enter at Recycling Center and follow signs to HMM facility

Open

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday ONLY, 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Closed

Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and public holidays.

Tel: 720.564.2251

www.bouldercountyrecycles.org



Latex (water-based) PAINT

Hazardous
Materials
Fact Sheet

#2



What Should I Do With My Latex Paint?

Save yourself a trip by drying out or solidifying your spoiled latex paint and disposing of it with your regular trash. Latex paint is not hazardous and, once solidified, can be safely sent for landfill disposal.



Resource Conservation Division
1901 63rd Street, Boulder, Colorado 80301
Tel: 720.564.2220; Fax: 720.564.2227
www.bouldercountyrecycles.org

SAVE A TRIP: DRY IT OUT

Hazardous Materials Management Facility

How to Dry Out Latex Paint

If your latex paint is not reusable, there are several ways to dry it out. Here are a few examples:

- Remove the lid and allow the paint to dry. You may need to mix it up to be sure it dries all the way through. This works well for small quantities and can take several days.
- Mix an equal amount of absorbent material (kitty litter, sawdust, newspaper or vermiculite) to the paint, mix well and allow it to dry. Paint hardening products can also be purchased at hardware stores. Once there is no free running liquid you can dispose of the cans with your trash.
- Line a cardboard box with a plastic bag free of holes. Pour absorbent material into the box; slowly mix the paint into the absorbent. Once completely dry, dispose of the bag with your regular trash, and recycle the cardboard box.

Disposal

- When the paint is completely solidified and dry it can be thrown away with your regular household trash. Leave the lids off the cans so your waste hauler knows the can is dried-out. If the lids are left on, your waste hauler will not take it.
- Metal paint cans that are completely empty and dry may be recycled as scrap metal.

Save A Trip: Dry It Out!

The Hazardous Materials Management Program spends thousands of taxpayer dollars each year on disposing of non-reusable latex paint. In an effort to reduce program costs, residents are asked to consider another option before bringing latex paint to the facility or collection event.

Save yourself a trip by drying out or solidifying your spoiled latex paint and disposing of it with your regular trash. Latex paint is not hazardous and, once solidified, can be safely sent for landfill disposal.

The program will continue to accept latex paint if you are unable to dry it out, and we will continue to pass on good, reusable paint to other county residents and businesses for reuse.



Why Should I Dry It Out?

- *Save a trip!*
- *Waste haulers will not accept latex paint that is not completely solidified before it is thrown away.*
- *Liquids can leak out of trash trucks onto streets and into the environment.*
- *Landfills are not designed for liquid wastes and will not accept them.*
- *You can help your local hazardous waste program spend less taxpayer dollars.*



Paint Calculator

1. Determine the total square feet (sq. ft.) of each area to be painted.
 - A. For each wall multiply the height x width
Height _____ ft. x width _____ ft. = _____ sq. ft.
 - B. For each ceiling, multiply the length by the width
Length _____ ft. x width _____ ft. = _____ sq. ft.
2. Add the total square feet for all the walls and ceilings to be painted.
 - C. $A + B =$ _____ total sq. ft.
3. To determine the number of gallons of paint needed for one coat, divide the total sq.ft. by 400.
 - D. Total sq. ft. (sum from C) _____ / 400 = _____ gallons of paint.

Waste Reduction: Only buy the amount of paint needed to finish the project, then there will be no paint for disposal. Save money and reduce waste—buy smaller samples instead of using whole quarts for color samples. Use the paint calculator to figure out how much paint you need.