

Safely dispose of paint

- If you have extra paint after the job, put on additional coats of paint until all of it is used up
- Use paint for odd jobs such as closets, underside of steps, fences, dog houses, attics, etc.
- Brush the additional paint onto newspaper, cardboard, or other item to dry. Then dispose with your regular trash.
- For latex paints, water-based paints, and small amounts of oil-based paints you can remove the lid (or punch holes in the lid) and allow it to set out in a dry, well ventilated area to allow the liquid to evaporate – keep away from children and pets. This may take several minutes to several months depending on the type and quantity of paint that you have. The container can then be thrown out with the rest of the trash – leave the lids off so that trash collectors can see the paint is dried and accept them.
- You can blend absorbent material such as cat litter, shredded newspaper, shredded corn cobs, or saw dust with latex paint or oil-based paints and allow it to dry completely. Then throw out with the regular trash or remove the dried paint and recycle the container.
- Dry, empty paint containers can be disposed of with your regular trash or recyclable materials
- Donate extra paint to community outreach programs, local community projects, Habitat for Humanity, schools, churches, local shelters, theater groups for their use
- For large amounts of paint, pour the paint into a cardboard box lined with plastic so it will not leak, and pour the paint in one-inch layers to dry. You can also add cat litter, sawdust, shredded newspaper, crushed corn cobs, or other absorbent materials and allow the liquid to dry.



Tip for future paint purchases:

- Purchase only the quantity of paint you need to do the job

Paint disposal No No's:

- Never pour latex or oil-based pain on the ground or into storm drains as it will contaminate nearby rivers, streams, and lakes.
- Do not throw liquid paint into the trash as it can seep through the garbage, mix with rain and other liquids, and contaminate ground water – quite possibly your source of drinking water!!

Additional information:

<http://earth911.com/recycling/hazardous/paint/disposal-of-paint/>
http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/materials_minerals_pdf/paint.pdf
<http://www.house-painting-info.com/paint-disposal.html>

Some communities, like the City of Richmond, have a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facility. Residents of the City of Richmond can take their HHW items to the New Paris Pike Landfill for proper disposal.

Residents living outside of Richmond will need to follow the suggestions on the front side of this paper.

