Colorado Paint Stewardship Program

Each year about 650 million gallons of architectural paint is sold in the United States. Did you know that about 10 percent goes unused and is available for recycling?

Colorado's Paint Stewardship Law requires the paint manufacturing industry to develop a financially sustainable and environmentally responsible program to manage postconsumer architectural paint.

The program includes education about buying the right amount of paint, tips for using up remaining paint and setting up convenient recycling locations throughout the state.

Paint manufacturers established PaintCare, a nonprofit organization, to run paint stewardship programs in states with applicable laws.

PaintCare Products

These products have fees when you buy them and are accepted for free at drop-off sites:

- Interior and exterior architectural paints: latex, acrylic, water-based, alkyd, oil-based, enamel (including textured coatings)
- Deck coatings, floor paints (including elastomeric)
- Primers, sealers, undercoaters
- Stains
- Shellacs, lacquers, varnishes, urethanes (single component)
- Waterproofing concrete/masonry/wood sealers and repellents (not tar or bitumen-based)
- Metal coatings, rust preventatives
- Field and lawn paints

Leaking, unlabeled and empty containers are not accepted at drop-off sites.

Non-PaintCare Products

- Paint thinners, mineral spirits, solvents
- Aerosol paints (spray cans)
- Auto and marine paints
- Art and craft paints
- Caulk, epoxies, glues, adhesives
- Paint additives, colorants, tints, resins
- Wood preservatives (containing pesticides)
- Roof patch and repair
- Asphalt, tar and bitumen-based products
- 2-component coatings
- Deck cleaners
- Traffic and road marking paints
- Industrial Maintenance (IM) coatings
- Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) (shop application) paints and finishes

For information about recycling and proper disposal of non-PaintCare products, please contact your garbage hauler, local environmental health agency, household hazardous waste program or public works department.

paintcare®

Recycle with PaintCare

COLORADO

Places to Take Old Paint

Paint recycling is more convenient with PaintCare. We set up paint drop-off sites throughout Colorado. To find your nearest drop-off site, use PaintCare's search tool at www.paintcare.org or call our hotline at (855) 724-6809.

How to Recycle

PaintCare sites accept all brands of old house paint, stain and varnish – even if they are 20 years old! Containers must be five gallons or smaller, and a few types of paint are not accepted. See back panel for a list of what you can recycle.

All PaintCare drop-off sites accept up to five gallons of paint per visit. Some sites accept more. Please call the site in advance to make sure they can accept the amount of paint you would like to recycle.

Make sure all containers of paint have lids and original labels, and load them securely in your vehicle. Take them to a drop-off site during their regular business hours. We'll take it from there.

What Happens to the Paint?

PaintCare will make sure that your leftover paint is remixed into recycled paint, used as a fuel, made into other products or properly disposed.

Who Can Use the Program?

People bringing paint from their homes can bring as much latex or oil-based paint as the site is willing to accept.

Businesses (painting contractors and others) can use this program with one restriction: If your business produces more than 220 pounds (about 20-30 gallons) of hazardous waste per month, you may use the drop-off sites for your latex paint only but not for your oil-based paint. Contact PaintCare to learn more about this restriction.

Large Volume Pick-Up

If you have at least 300 gallons of paint to recycle at your business or home, ask about our free pick-up service. Please call for more details or to request an appointment.

PaintCare Fee

PaintCare is funded by a fee paid by paint manufacturers for each can of paint they sell in the state. Manufacturers pass the fee to retailers, who then apply it to the price of paint. Stores can choose whether or not to show the fee on their receipts. Fees are based on the size of the container as follows:

$ 0.00	Half pint or smaller
$ 0.35	Larger than half pint to smaller than 1 gallon
$ 0.75	1 Gallon
$ 1.60	Larger than 1 gallon up to 5 gallons

Not a Deposit

The fee is not a deposit – it is part of the purchase price. The fees are used to pay the costs of running the program: recycling, public education, staffing and other expenses.

Contact Us

To learn more or find a drop-off site, please visit www.paintcare.org or call (855) 724-6809.