

HOW DO I DISPOSE OF MY LATEX PAINT?



Latex paint is water based. The latex paint that is currently manufactured does not designate as a hazardous waste. Try to either use up any leftover latex paint or give it away. You can use leftover latex paint for touch-ups, primers, or base coats. Find someone who may have a painting project. For larger quantities of latex paint, advertise it on the Web site: www.2good2toss.com.



For more information, please call Clallam County
HHS Environmental Health (360) 417-2258
or the Regional Transfer Station Information Line
(360) 417-4875.

www.clallam.net • www.cityofpa.us

If you need to get rid of the latex paint, dry it out at home. It must be dried out because liquids are not allowed in the garbage. To speed up the paint drying, add kitty litter, a commercial paint hardener, sawdust, grass clippings, or sand. After the paint is dry in the can, you may dispose of it in the garbage with the lid off.

For your next painting project...

- Buy what you need. Know how much paint you need before you go to the paint store. Painting projects require about one gallon of paint to cover 400 square feet of smooth surface. You can save money and avoid waste by getting the right amount of paint for your project.
- Choose water-based over oil-based paint whenever possible.
- Select the least toxic, lowest VOC paints available, especially for indoor paint jobs. Ask at your paint store for help.
- Read the labels carefully before you buy. Even latex, low-VOC paints can contain toxic ingredients.
- Read all the directions on the label and follow them carefully.
- Avoid spray painting.
- Do not use exterior paint indoors.
- Test for lead on any surfaces that were painted more than 20 years ago. Use lead-safe preparation methods.
- Turn off air conditioning and cover with plastic. Air conditioners do not filter indoor air.

**For more information, please call
Clallam County Environmental Health
(360) 417-2258 or the Regional Transfer Station
Information line at (360) 417-4875.**

www.clallam.net • www.cityofpa.us

Produced by Clallam County, in cooperation with the City of Port Angeles.
Partial funding comes from the Washington State Department of Ecology's
Coordinated Prevention Grant. May 2007