



Information for HHW Programs

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Colorado's Paint Stewardship Law benefits household hazardous waste programs.

A law passed in June 2014 requires paint manufacturers to establish a paint stewardship program in Colorado. Household hazardous waste (HHW) programs that participate can save money on paint management costs. Program funding comes from a *PaintCare Fee* applied to each container of architectural paint sold in Colorado when the program started in July 2015.

Paint Stewardship Program in Colorado

PaintCare Inc. is a nonprofit organization established by the American Coatings Association to implement state-mandated paint stewardship programs on behalf of paint manufacturers in states that adopt paint stewardship laws. Colorado is the eighth state to pass such a law. Although this program is required by state law, it is designed and operated by the paint manufacturing industry. PaintCare currently operates programs in California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Maine, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

[PaintCare is currently developing a program for Washington, expected to launch in 2020.](#)

Designing a Program for Colorado

The law required PaintCare, on behalf of paint manufacturers, to submit a comprehensive Program Plan to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment by January 1, 2015. PaintCare organized a series of stakeholder meetings to present the goals and design of the program and to receive input from HHW programs and other stakeholders.

Making Paint Recycling Convenient

PaintCare has established drop-off sites throughout the state for residents and businesses to take leftover architectural paint. Although most drop-off sites are at paint retailers, HHW programs, solid waste transfer stations, recycling centers, and landfills may also volunteer to be PaintCare drop-off sites and have their paint transportation and recycling costs paid by PaintCare. Facilities that would like to become a drop-off site can fill out the Interest Form available in the Waste Facilities section of www.paintcare.org/CO.

Benefits of Partnering with PaintCare

- ◆ Save on paint transportation and recycling costs
- ◆ Conserve resources and keep paint out of the solid waste stream
- ◆ Make recycling of leftover paint more convenient for your community

PaintCare Partners Receive

- ◆ Staff training at your site
- ◆ Paint collection bins
- ◆ Free paint transportation and processing services
- ◆ Compensation for value-added services including paint reuse programs, bulking of oil-based paint, and other services
- ◆ Publicity of HHW site or event (optional)



Drop-Off Site Responsibilities

- ◆ Provide secure storage area for cubic yard boxes or drums
- ◆ Accept PaintCare products from the public during normal operating hours
- ◆ Properly pack PaintCare products in collection bins
- ◆ Assist with loading and unloading of full and empty storage bins
- ◆ Complete minimal paperwork to track outgoing paint shipments
- ◆ Ensure staff are trained in PaintCare guidelines and safe operating procedures

Will PaintCare Require Operational Changes?

- ◆ If your program does not currently accept latex paint, PaintCare will not require you to do so. If you wish to start accepting latex, PaintCare will cover the transportation and processing costs.
- ◆ If your program does not currently accept paint from businesses, PaintCare will not require you to do so. If you wish to start accepting paint from businesses, PaintCare will cover the transportation and processing costs.
- ◆ HHW programs may continue to put restrictions on who can use their programs, e.g., to residents of certain towns or cities. (PaintCare retailers accept paint from anyone in the state.)

Water-Based (Latex) Paint is a Resource

An important goal of PaintCare is to conserve resources and increase the amount of paint that is recycled. Not all HHW programs accept water-based paint because it is expensive to manage and is not classified as hazardous. Residents and businesses are often told to let water-based paint dry out and then dispose of the dry paint in the trash. Through the PaintCare program, all paint, including latex paint, will be recycled to the maximum extent possible.

Contact

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WHAT PRODUCTS ARE COVERED?

The products accepted at PaintCare drop-off sites are the same products that have a fee when they are sold.

PaintCare Products include interior and exterior architectural coatings sold in containers of 5 gallons or less. However, they do not include aerosol products (spray cans), industrial maintenance (IM), original equipment manufacturer (OEM), or specialty coatings.

PaintCare Products

- ◆ 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

Non-Paintcare Products

- ◆ Paint thinners, mineral spirits, solvents
- ◆ Aerosol paints (spray cans)
- ◆ Auto and marine paints
- ◆ Art and craft paints
- ◆ Caulking compounds, 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