



## PAINTCARE VERMONT: ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY

### ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY: PAINTCARE PARTNERS HELP MAKE PAINT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM A SUCCESS

PaintCare partners are making it easier than ever for Vermont households and businesses to recycle leftover, unwanted paint. During the first year of the state's paint stewardship program, 62 paint retailers have signed up to collect paint all year around from households and business in their local communities. Additionally, 10 municipal hazardous waste collection facilities have partnered with PaintCare to receive support for the continued collection of paint. PaintCare also conducted 5 paint-only drop-off events since the program was launched on May 1 of last year.

To all the paint drop-off sites who became PaintCare partners in the first 12 months of operations—helping to make paint reuse and recycling in Vermont a convenient option—we offer a warm thank you!

One of PaintCare's priorities is to make paint recycling convenient in all regions of the state, and we will continue to assist retailers and other facilities in becoming drop-off sites. Enthusiastic program partners are a great way to increase interest in becoming a drop-off site—please feel free to spread the word to potential partners and let John Hurd, Vermont program manager, know of any retailer or other facility that is interested in learning more.

Also, as we head into the busier summer paint collection season, please feel free to get in touch with John with any assistance you might need with collecting unwanted paint at your PaintCare site

### PAINTCARE PARTNERSHIPS WITH HHW PROGRAMS

PaintCare offers more options for people to recycle paint than just retail drop-off sites. Although retail sites may be the most convenient option for most households, we also have partnerships with Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) programs, operated by local government agencies and/or garbage companies.

In addition to accepting non-paint products that PaintCare sites do not accept, HHW facilities and events are able to accept cans of paint that do not have original labels or are in poor condition, and in many cases, they accept larger quantities of paint than retailers. The hours and days of operation for HHW programs vary, so we recommend that customers call ahead.

Some HHW programs have a special program (by appointment) for businesses. They do not charge their normal per gallon fee for paint if the program is a PaintCare partner. There is normally a fee for businesses, but it is often a subsidized fee so it will cost less than calling a hazardous waste service provider. They typically charge businesses a "per gallon" fee for non-paint products (e.g., thinner, pesticides).

Contact John Hurd, Vermont program manager, for further information about PaintCare's partnerships with HHWs facilities.

### SPOTLIGHT ON COATINGS: FLOOR COATINGS

When they think of architectural coatings, most consumers immediately think of house paint – whether it's for exterior siding or interior walls and ceilings. But some paint purchasers are interested in painting the material beneath their feet, especially floors that take a lot of wear, such as concrete floors in garages and basements. Although a few consumers might choose "regular paint" as a cost-effective option for sprucing up old interior floors in living spaces, there are special coatings designed specifically for floors. Which of these are PaintCare products?

Floor Paints: Commonly marketed as "porch and floor paint," floor paints can be either latex or oil-based and can be used on wood, concrete, and other surfaces, such as vinyl. They typically are applied to porches, decks, basements, and



patios. These paints have the added bonus in that leftovers can sometimes be used for smaller painting projects, like trellises, patio furniture, or a garden shed. As with most floor paints, primers used with floor paint and single-component urethanes that are sometimes used as a top coat, are PaintCare products; the PaintCare fees are applied, and they are accepted at PaintCare drop-off sites.

Clear Floor Finishes: Varnish, shellac, and lacquer floor finishes are normally PaintCare products unless they are two parts or considered IM Coatings (see below).

Epoxy Floor Coatings: Recognized as being tougher than other floor paints or stains, epoxy finishes provide durability and are often used on garage floors where they can resist heat from vehicle tires, as well as stand up to moisture and oil spills. If a two-part epoxy, both parts are mixed just prior to use to start a chemical reaction. The timeframe in which the mixed components can be applied is relatively short (sometimes called the "pot life"). If the mixed coating is not used, it will harden in the container. Only single component epoxies are PaintCare products; two component coatings are not PaintCare products.

Two-Component Coatings are "Out": Some floor paints, clear finishes, epoxy, and urethane floor finishes are two-part coatings sold with two containers that are mixed prior to application and usually labeled Part A and Part B. Part A is usually a resin and Part B is usually a catalyst to start the chemical reaction and speed up curing time. Two-part coatings are not PaintCare products.

IM Coatings are "Out": Some floor finishes, whether they are paint, clear coatings, or epoxies are classified as industrial maintenance (IM) coatings because they are intended for specific purposes, such as exposure to abrasion, heat, and/or chemicals. If a floor finish is labeled "for industrial use only" or "for professional use only," it is not a PaintCare product. (For details about this exception, see PaintCare's product notice #4. [insert link: <http://www.paintcare.org/wp-content/uploads/docs/xx-product-notice-4-professional-use.pdf>])

Anti-Slip Additives: Applying an anti-slip additive (usually silica or sand) to paint—or directly to a newly painted floor—will help avoid accidents, whether from water in a laundry room or garage or rain outdoors. These products are sometimes mistaken for a two-component coating because they are sometimes sold together; however, they are not excluded from the PaintCare program—fees are applied and consumers are welcome to drop them off for recycling at a PaintCare drop-off site.

For a complete list of all PaintCare products accepted at drop-off sites, visit [www.paintcare.org/products-we-accept](http://www.paintcare.org/products-we-accept).

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