



Reuse Programs – Compensation & Reporting

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PaintCare encourages household hazardous waste programs, reuse stores, and others to operate paint reuse programs (i.e., swap shops or exchanges). Reuse programs return good quality unused paint to the local community at low or no cost. Reuse is a preferred method of waste management.

To encourage reuse, PaintCare will compensate paint drop-off sites operating a reuse program under a contract with PaintCare. PaintCare allows two different reporting methods by container or by volume as described here.

Operating a Reuse Program

Any PaintCare products (qualifying paint, stain, and varnish as defined by PaintCare – please see www.paintcare.org/products-we-accept) that are distributed through reuse programs must be in their original container, have an original label, and be in good physical and aesthetic condition. Contents must be liquid and relatively new. Containers should be closed securely before being placed in the reuse storage area. Customers must sign a waiver form explaining that the paint is taken “as is” with no guarantee of quality or contents. The customer is required to read, complete, and sign the form, and site staff members are required to verify and record what has been taken by the customer.



Reuse room at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility at the Yolo County Central Landfill in Woodland, CA.

Method 1. Track and Report by Container Size

To track and report by container size, the following applies:

- ◆ Containers must be at least 50% full
- ◆ The number of containers distributed for reuse must be reported in three size categories for both latex and oil-based (total of 6 categories)
- ◆ Compensation is not provided for paint containers smaller than 1 quart
- ◆ The following compensation rates apply:

\$6.00 per 5-gallon container

\$1.20 per 1-gallon container

\$0.30 per quart container

A drop-off site does not need to track or report the actual volume of paint in the containers. Under this model, even though containers may be between 50% and 100% full, PaintCare will assume an average of 75% full when reporting reuse volumes in annual reports to state agencies.

Method 2. Track and Report by Volume

To track and report by volume (gallons), the following applies:

- ◆ Containers may contain any amount of paint in them
- ◆ The site must determine and report the total gallons of latex paint and the total gallons of oil-based paint distributed for reuse
- ◆ Compensation is provided at \$1.60 per gallon

The site must track and report the actual volume of paint in the containers using an internal methodology (e.g., weigh the cans on a scale, estimate weight by hand, do visual inspection). The methodology must be provided to PaintCare upon request.