The PaintCare Program makes it easy for paint retailers to provide a convenient and valuable service for their community.

Since October 2012 state law has required paint manufacturers to set up and operate a paint stewardship program in California. By now all retailers should be aware of the program, the PaintCare fees that are applied to the price of architectural paint products, and that drop-off sites that have been set up statewide. Retailers that would like to learn more about what it takes to join the program to be drop-off sites are encouraged to contact PaintCare for details.

Paint Stewardship Program in California
PaintCare Inc. is a nonprofit organization established by the American Coatings Association to implement this program on behalf of paint manufacturers in states that adopt paint stewardship laws. In addition to California, PaintCare operates programs in Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Maine, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont. PaintCare is currently developing a program for Washington, expected to launch in 2020.

Convenient Paint Recycling
PaintCare’s primary effort is to establish paint drop-off sites throughout each PaintCare State to provide convenient recycling options for the public. The program allows households and businesses to return unused architectural paint to drop-off locations throughout each PaintCare state.

PaintCare has established more than 750 paint drop-off sites across California. Most drop-off sites are at paint stores. Some sites are solid waste transfer stations, recycling centers or government-sponsored household hazardous waste programs. Participation as a drop-off site is voluntary.

Stores that would like to become a drop-off site can fill out the Interest Form available in the Retailers section of www.paintcare.org/ca.

Benefits to Retailers
There are many benefits to becoming a drop-off site.

As a participating retailer, you will:

- Make recycling of leftover paint more convenient for your customers
- Support the paint industry’s effort to lead the way in being responsible for end-of-life management of its own products
- Promote your store as environmentally responsible
- Help relieve local government of their cost of managing leftover paint
- Help prevent the improper disposal of paint in your community
PaintCare Provides

- Listing of your store as a drop-off site on our website, and in advertisements and promotional materials
- Paint storage bins
- Transportation and recycling services for the collected paint
- Training materials and staff training at your site
- Program brochures, signage and customer education materials
- Spill kits

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 five 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

Drop-Off Site Responsibilities

- Provide secure storage area for paint storage bins
- Accept all brands of leftover program products from the public during operating hours
- Place unopened program products in storage bins
- Keep storage bins neat and properly packed
- Complete minimal paperwork related to tracking outgoing paint shipments
- Ensure staff are trained in PaintCare program guidelines and operating procedures
- Display “drop-off site” signs in store window and display consumer education materials