



NEW PROGRAM MANAGER, ONE DAY EVENTS, BIN STORAGE, FLOOR COATINGS

NEW CALIFORNIA PROGRAM MANAGER

After almost three years with PaintCare and having helped to establish more than 700 sites that collected 2.6 million gallons of paint in California, Caitlin Sanders, California Program Manager, is leaving PaintCare. We wish Caitlin well as she pursues her Master's degree in Public Policy at Duke University.

Jeremy Jones will assume the role of West Coast Manager, overseeing PaintCare operations in both California and Oregon. Jeremy brings to his new role considerable experience with paint stewardship; he previously helped launch and then manage PaintCare's program in Minnesota.

After May 15, please contact Jeremy about PaintCare California at (415) 590-0259 or jjones@paint.org.

ONE-DAY DROP-OFF EVENTS

This spring and summer, PaintCare has started a new activity - organizing one-day paint drop-off events in select communities across California. These events provide both households and businesses with an additional opportunity to recycle leftover, unwanted paint. In these less densely populated communities, there are fewer paint retailers that can serve as paint drop-off sites, requiring some residents to drive longer distances to drop off their paint (such as in a neighboring town). Typically held in a centrally-located parking lot of a municipal facility or school, the one-day events are intended to make it more convenient to recycle paint.

So far this spring, PaintCare has conducted paint drop-off events in the towns of Hemet, Ontario, San Bernardino, San Juan Capistrano, and Spring Valley (San Diego County). Additional events are scheduled in the coming months in the communities of Adelanto, Chula Vista, and San Jose.

If you think your community could benefit from a special paint collection event and know of a good location, please contact your regional coordinator for details.

For details about upcoming one-day paint drop-off events, visit our website.

STORING PAINT DROP-OFF BINS

Paint retailers that serve as drop-off sites for leftover paint provide a valuable community service and enjoy the promise of increased foot traffic. When stores sign up to be drop-off sites, they receive storage bins for paint, in-person staff training from the PaintCare state coordinator, signage upon request, and a binder for future reference and record keeping.

Storage bins are delivered to drop-off sites by the same hauling company that will be assigned to pick up the bins when they are full. Storage bins kept inside a store must be secured from immediate public access, while outdoor bins need to be secured by a fenced area. The fence should be locked when a site is closed for business.

The labels supplied with bins should be affixed to the side, and bins should be positioned so the labels can be easily read. The lids on bins should be kept closed at all times, except when staff are placing paint cans in them.

If a bin appears damaged upon delivery – or is damaged at any other time – or if labels are not provided with a bin, drop-off sites should contact their assigned hauling company or PaintCare coordinator right away.



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 are 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. The two parts are typically 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).

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 when they are sold together; however, the paint part is 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 our website.

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