FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Media Contact | Kim Beeler
kim@beelermarketing.com | (503) 908-0808

PaintCare California releases 2015 annual report
More than 2.7 million gallons of paint has been collected and processed

CALIFORNIA – [Dec. 2, 2015] — PaintCare, the nonprofit organization implementing the California Paint Stewardship Program, which started in October 2012, has released its 2015 annual report (July 2014-June 2015) with some impressive results in the program’s first three years.

Highlights of the program:
• Established 733 year-round (and 23 seasonal) drop-off locations throughout the state for households and businesses to recycle leftover paint at paint retailers, government-run household waste (HHW) facilities, solid waste transfer stations and other volunteer locations.
• Over 98% of California residents have a year-round drop-off site within 15 miles of their home.
• Managed paint from 192 municipal HHW drop-off events and 16 door-to-door collection programs
• Organized nine paint-only drop-off events.
• Provided 184 direct large volume pick-ups from businesses, institutions, and others that had accumulated more than 300 gallons of paint at their sites.
• Handled more than 2.7 million gallons of postconsumer paint, most of which was made into recycled-content paint or, in the case of oil base paint, used for fuel.
• Recycled approximately 1,679 tons of plastic and metal paint cans.

“As the California program completed its third year, we’ve learned many important things to help us continue our success with this large-scale, statewide management program for leftover paint,” said Jeremy Jones, PaintCare’s West Coast program manager. “We have made much progress, and look forward to seeing the results of our increased financial incentive for paint reuse.”

The California Paint Stewardship Law, supported by paint manufacturers and signed by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2010, established the program to decrease the generation of postconsumer architectural paint, promote reuse of the paint and manage the paint in an environmentally sound manner that includes collection, transportation, processing, recycling and proper disposal. There is no charge for dropping off paint at a PaintCare location.

(more)
Until PaintCare, local government-run household hazardous waste sites were the primary programs collecting leftover paint. Now there are more than 700 more places to take paint. However, PaintCare drop-off locations cannot accept aerosols or other chemicals. Jones said residents should continue to take other “non-paint” chemicals, such as pesticides and paint thinner, as well as paint in aerosol spray cans, to the HHW programs.

All brands of unwanted house paint, stain and varnish that are labelled and in original containers may be dropped off at PaintCare locations, even if they are 20 years old. Retailers participating in the program accept non-industrial paint from all households without residency restrictions, as well as from most businesses. Costs for the PaintCare program are covered by a nominal fee that has been added to the price of new paint, stain and varnish sold in California. The fees vary by container size: 35 cents for pints or quarts, 75 cents for one gallon containers, and $1.60 for five gallon containers.

To find the nearest PaintCare drop-off locations and to learn more about the types of products that are accepted, visit www.paintcare.org/california.

PaintCare also operates paint recycling programs in Oregon, Connecticut, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Vermont, Colorado and Maine – with the District of Columbia soon to follow in 2016.

**About PaintCare**

Paint manufacturers created PaintCare, a non-profit stewardship organization to run recycling programs in states as they pass paint stewardship laws. Through PaintCare, the paint industry sets up drop-off locations for unused paint, arranges for recycling and proper disposal of the paint, and conducts outreach about proper paint management. For additional information, visit paintcare.org.

(more)
High resolution versions of these images can be downloaded using the URL listed. For additional images, please contact PaintCare at 855-PAINT09 or 855-724-6809.

PaintCare Paint on Shelves
www.paintcare.org/photo01.jpg

5 Cans of PaintCare Products
www.paintcare.org/photo14.jpg

Paint Clerk Accepting Paint
www.paintcare.org/photo06.jpg

Consumer Taking Back Paint
www.paintcare.org/photo04.jpg