



Information for HHW Programs

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Maine's paint stewardship law benefits Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Programs.

A law passed in July 2013 requires paint manufacturers to establish a Paint Stewardship Program in Maine. Municipal HHW Programs that participate can save money on paint management costs. Program funding comes from a fee on the sale of architectural paint sold in Maine. The program began in October 2015.

Paint Stewardship Program in Maine

PaintCare Inc. is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established by the American Coatings Association to implement state-mandated paint stewardship programs on behalf of paint manufacturers in each state that adopts a paint stewardship law. Maine is the seventh state to pass such a law. Although the program is required by state law, it is designed and operated by the paint manufacturing industry. PaintCare currently operates programs in California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Maine, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

Making Paint Recycling More Convenient

PaintCare has established drop-off sites statewide for households and businesses to take leftover architectural paint.

Although most drop-off sites will be at paint retailers, HHW programs, one day events, and waste transfer stations may also volunteer to be PaintCare drop-off sites and have their paint transportation and recycling/disposal costs paid by PaintCare.

Facilities and one-day collection events that would like to become a drop-off site can fill out the Interest Form available in the Municipalities section of www.paintcare.org/ME.

Benefits to HHW Programs

- ◆ Make recycling of leftover paint more convenient
- ◆ Save on transportation and recycling/disposal
- ◆ Conserve resources and keep paint out of the solid waste stream
- ◆ Allow households to bring paint with other HHW in one trip to one site

PaintCare Partners Receive

- ◆ Collection bins
- ◆ Transportation and recycling/disposal services
- ◆ Staff training at your site
- ◆ Program guidelines
- ◆ Free publicity of HHW site or event (optional)

One-Day Collection Events

For one-day HHW collection events:

- ◆ Reach agreement with your hauler to accept and manage PaintCare program products collected during the event
- ◆ Allow PaintCare to process the program products collected
- ◆ PaintCare provides cubic yard boxes (bins) for collecting program products and covers transportation and processing costs for these products
- ◆ PaintCare does not pay for additional labor needed to pack program products collected at events



Drop-Off Site Responsibilities

For fixed/permanent HHW facilities:

- ◆ Provide secure storage area for cubic yard boxes or drums
- ◆ Accept PaintCare products from the public during normal operating hours
- ◆ Properly pack PaintCare products in collection bins
- ◆ Assist with loading and unloading of full and empty storage bins
- ◆ Complete paperwork related to tracking outgoing paint shipments
- ◆ Ensure staff are trained in PaintCare program guidelines and operating procedures

Does PaintCare Require Operational Changes?

- ◆ If your program does not currently accept latex paint, PaintCare will not require you to do so. If you wish to start accepting latex paint, PaintCare will cover the transportation and recycling costs.
- ◆ If your program does not currently accept paint from businesses, PaintCare will not require you to do so. If you wish to start accepting paint from businesses, PaintCare will cover the transportation and recycling costs.
- ◆ PaintCare selects its own transporter(s) to pick up paint from all PaintCare sites in the state. If your current hazardous waste transporter is not the same company, a different hauler (PaintCare's hauler) will transport paint from your program.

Water-Based (Latex) Paint is a Resource

An important goal of PaintCare is to conserve resources and increase the volume of paint that is recycled. Not all HHW programs accept water-based paint because it is expensive to manage and not classified as hazardous. Households and businesses are often instructed to let water-based paint dry out and dispose of the dry paint in the trash. Through the PaintCare program, all paint including latex is treated as a resource and recycled to the maximum extent possible.

Contact

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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