



A convenient new paint recycling program will begin in Washington on April 1, 2021 (pending approval). The program is funded by a fee on new paint sales.

Paint Stewardship

PaintCare is a nonprofit organization established by the American Coatings Association to implement paint stewardship programs on behalf of coatings manufacturers in states that pass paint stewardship laws. PaintCare currently operates programs in California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Maine, Minnesota, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont, and is developing programs for New York and Washington.

Convenient Paint Recycling

PaintCare's primary effort is to set up paint drop-off sites throughout PaintCare states to make it more convenient for households and businesses to recycle paint. In addition to retailers, drop-off sites may include household hazardous waste facilities and events, solid waste transfer stations, and landfills. Paint retailers represent over 75% of the more than 1,800 paint drop-off sites across the existing nine programs.

Fees and Funding

As required by the Washington's paint stewardship law, a fee (called the PaintCare fee), will be added by manufacturers to the wholesale price of all architectural paint sold in the state. This fee will fund the collection, transportation, recycling, and proper disposal of architectural paint. It also will pay for education and program administration. Paint retailers and distributors will see this fee on their invoices from paint manufacturers

and the law requires retailers and distributors to include the fee on the purchase price of architectural paint sold in Washington. While showing the fee on consumer receipts is not mandatory, PaintCare encourages retailers and distributors to do so to provide transparency and to aid in consumer education. Most retailers choose to show the fee on receipts and invoices.

PaintCare Fee

The following fee structure for Washington has been proposed, subject to approval by the Washington State Department of Ecology. The fee is based on container size:

- ◆ \$0.00: Half pint or smaller
- ◆ \$0.45: Larger than half pint up to smaller than 1 gallon
- ◆ \$0.95: 1 gallon up to 2 gallons
- ◆ \$1.95: Larger than 2 gallons up to 5 gallons

Please note that the fee must be applied to all architectural paint sold both in stores and online.

Limits on Quantities at Drop-Off Sites

Drop-off sites may set their own limits on the quantity of paint they will accept from households and eligible businesses at one time. All sites accept up to 5 gallons of paint, but some may accept more. The public is advised to contact any site they intend to use before dropping off paint to find out whether the site can accept the amount and type of paint they would like to recycle.

What products are covered?

Architectural paints include most house paints, stains, and clear coatings (e.g., varnish and shellac). For the definition of architectural paint for the purposes of this program or examples of PaintCare and non-PaintCare products, please contact PaintCare or visit www.paintcare.org/products.