PAINT STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS IN THE U.S.

Large Volume Pickup (LVP) Service

Updated — April 2025



PaintCare offers a free pickup service to painting contractors, property managers, and others with large amounts of leftover architectural paint.

Who Is PaintCare?

PaintCare is a nonprofit organization established by the American Coatings Association to operate paint stewardship programs on behalf of paint manufacturers in states that pass paint stewardship laws.

In states with a paint stewardship program (see www.paintcare.org/states), PaintCare's primary effort is to set up conveniently located drop-off sites—places where households, businesses, and others may take their unwanted paint for no charge. Sites set their own limits on the volume of paint they accept from customers per visit, usually from 5 to 20 gallons. To find a drop-off site near you, visit www.paintcare.org/drop-off-sites or call (855) PAINT09.

Large Volume Pickups

In states where PaintCare operates, those who have accumulated a large volume of paint may be eligible for PaintCare's large volume pickup service (LVP). Large volume means 100 or more gallons, measured by container size, not liquid volume. On a case-by-case basis, PaintCare may approve a pickup for less than 100 gallons. After two or three annual pickups, you may be switched to a recurring pickup service.

Drums and Bulked Paint Are Not Accepted

PaintCare only accepts paint in containers that are 5 gallons or smaller in size. Leave paint in original cans with original labels; do not combine or bulk paint from small cans into larger ones. If you have unwanted paint in drums or containers larger than 5 gallons, please contact a paint recycling company or a hazardous waste transportation company to assist you.

HOW TO REQUEST AN LVP

Sort and count your paint
 Tally the number of each container size and the type of products you have, sorted into two categories: (1) water-based paints and stains, and

categories: (1) water-based paints and stains, ar (2) oil-based paints and stains and any other program products (sealers and clear top-coat products, such as varnish and shellac).

2. Fill out the request form

Fill out the Large Volume Pickup Request Form on our website at www.paintcare.org/pickup.
Call PaintCare at (855) PAINT09 if you need assistance using the web form.

Scheduling

After reviewing your form, PaintCare staff will either approve your site for a pickup or inform you of the best place to take your paint if you do not meet the requirements. Once approved, you will be put in contact with our licensed transporter to schedule a pickup. It may be several weeks before your pickup occurs.

On the Day of Your Pickup

Sort your products into the two categories as noted above and store them in an area that has easy access for the transporter. If the paint is far from where the transporter parks, the path between should be at least four feet wide to accommodate movement of the paint collection bins.



The transporter is responsible for packing the paint into the bins. Once your paint is properly packed and loaded onto the transporter's truck, you will sign a shipping document and receive a copy for your records. Your paint will then be taken to an authorized facility for processing.

Reuse

Some LVP recipients have good quality leftover paint that could be used by other local households, businesses, and organizations. Paint reuse provides a direct benefit to your community and saves on resources needed to transport and recycle paint. Please note on the request form if you think your paint is a good match. Staff may reach out with local reuse options if they are available.

Business Limits

With the exception of businesses in Illinois, to use the PaintCare program for oil-based paint, a business must qualify as an exempt generator under federal and any analogous state hazardous waste generator rules. Please visit www.paintcare.org/business-limits for more information on exempt generator rules. If your business does not qualify as an exempt generator, it will not be able to use the program for oil-based paint, but it can still use the program for latex products. (Non-exempt generators may use the pickup service in New York. Contact PaintCare for details.)

If You Have Products We Don't Accept

PaintCare does not accept certain paint products (such as aerosol coatings and automotive finishes) or other hazardous waste. If you have solvents, thinners, pesticides, or any non-PaintCare products (see list to right for examples), we recommend that households contact their local household hazardous waste (HHW) program. Some HHW programs also allow businesses to use their program for a modest fee. Otherwise, businesses should contact a licensed hazardous waste transportation company.

What Products Are Covered?

The products accepted by the PaintCare program are the same products that have a fee when they are sold. PaintCare products include interior and exterior architectural coatings sold in container sizes of five gallons or less. They do not include aerosol coatings, 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
- Primers, sealers, undercoaters
- Stains
- Shellacs, lacquers, varnishes, urethanes
- 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 coatings
- 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

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