

Manufacturer Registration

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PaintCare

The American Coatings Association (ACA) has worked with various stakeholders interested in the management of postconsumer paint to develop and implement industry-led paint stewardship programs in the U.S. With the passage of paint stewardship legislation, ACA and its nonprofit stewardship organization, PaintCare, currently operate programs on behalf of paint manufacturers in California, Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Maine, Minnesota, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington, and is developing programs for Illinois and Maryland.

PaintCare’s primary effort is to establish convenient drop-off locations for unwanted or leftover paint throughout each state with a paint stewardship law. Funding for the program comes from a fee applied to the price of paint sold in that same state.

This Program Is for Architectural Paint Only

Architectural paint is defined as interior and exterior architectural coatings sold in containers that are 5 gallons or smaller in size. It does not include industrial maintenance, original equipment, or specialty coatings. Architectural paint includes house paint, stain, sealer, varnish, and a few other products. Please refer to the next page for examples of PaintCare products and

non-PaintCare products and also read PaintCare’s publication titled Definition of PaintCare Products for more details. (See www.paintcare.org/manufacturers.) We use the term “paint” below to mean the products included in this definition and covered by PaintCare.

What Do Manufacturers Need to Know?

As of the start of each state program, if you are not participating in PaintCare or implementing your own paint stewardship program as approved by the state’s designated oversight agency, you will not be permitted to sell paint in the state. If you are participating in the PaintCare program for the state, you will fulfill your obligations by reporting sales and remitting payment of an assessment (PaintCare fee) on each container of paint you offer for sale in that state.

PaintCare Fee

The fee funds the collection, transportation, recycling, and proper disposal of paint in the state, as well as education and outreach activities. The fee must be added to invoices for paint from manufacturers to dealers (distributors and retailers) and dealers must add it to the final purchase price of each container sold to consumers. The fee must be applied to all architectural paint sold in stores and online. For more information about the PaintCare fee, visit <https://www.paintcare.org/fee/>.

What are the fee amounts?

The PaintCare fee is based on container size and varies from one program to another:

| | Larger than half pint up to smaller than 1 gallon | 1–2 gallons | Larger than 2 gallons up to 5 gallons |
|------------------------|---|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| California | \$0.30 | \$0.65 | \$1.50 |
| Colorado | \$0.35 | \$0.75 | \$1.60 |
| Connecticut | \$0.35 | \$0.75 | \$1.60 |
| District of Columbia | \$0.30 | \$0.70 | \$1.60 |
| Maine* (until 9/30/25) | \$0.35 | \$0.75 | \$1.60 |
| Maine* (after 10/1/25) | \$0.50 | \$1.10 | \$2.00 |
| Minnesota | \$0.49 | \$0.99 | \$1.99 |
| New York | \$0.45 | \$0.95 | \$1.95 |
| Oregon | \$0.45 | \$0.95 | \$1.95 |
| Rhode Island | \$0.35 | \$0.75 | \$1.60 |
| Vermont | \$0.65 | \$1.35 | \$2.45 |
| Washington | \$0.45 | \$0.95 | \$1.95 |

*A fee increase will take place in Maine on October 1, 2025.

How Do I Participate in PaintCare?

You must register with PaintCare and provide a point of contact and a list of brands/names of architectural paint products you offer for sale in the state in which you would like to register.

Registration Is a Two-Step Process:

1. You can register to be a participant for a PaintCare program online at www.paintcarereporting.org. During the online registration process, you will list your company, contact information, brands/products, and check a box for each state in which you would like to register.
2. After we review your list to determine which ones are PaintCare products, you will receive an email to let you know that a user profile has been created. Your company name and the same brands/products will be added to the official registration lists for each state for which you register.

Each month thereafter, participants report the number of containers of paint they sell (by state and container size) and remit the PaintCare fee. (Companies with low sales may request a quarterly or semi-annual report period.)

PaintCare will undertake all other obligations on behalf of participants, including education and outreach for the program, management of the paint accepted at drop-off locations (from collection through recycling or proper disposal), and writing reports required by state laws.

Are These Government Programs?

No, the programs in each state are mandated by state laws, but they are managed by PaintCare. The program in each state is entirely funded by the PaintCare fee on sales in the same state.

Contact

Please contact PaintCare if you represent a manufacturer and would like information about registering your company or assistance with registrations or reports.

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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 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