

What Is the Oregon Paint Stewardship Program?

More than 700 million gallons of architectural paint is sold each year in the U.S., and it is estimated that about 10 percent of that goes unused and is available for recycling.

Unused, leftover (postconsumer) paint has generally been managed through programs operated and paid for by local and state government agencies.

Starting in July 2010, an Oregon law required the paint and coatings industry to develop a financially and environmentally sustainable solution to manage postconsumer architectural paint. Under the program, the paint industry is making paint recycling more convenient by setting up drop-off sites throughout the state where consumers can take their paint. PaintCare will also conduct outreach and education about buying the right amount and using up remaining paint.

Program Products

These products have fees and are accepted at drop-off sites:

- 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

Note: *Leaking, unlabeled, and empty containers are not accepted at drop-off sites.*

⊘ Non-Program Products

- Paint thinners, mineral spirits, solvents
- Aerosol paints (spray cans)
- Auto and marine paints
- Art and craft paints
- Caulk, epoxies, glues, adhesives
- Paint additives, colorants, tints, resins
- Wood preservatives (containing pesticides)
- Roof patch and repair
- Tar and bitumen-based products
- 2-component coatings
- Deck cleaners
- Traffic and road marking paints

For information about recycling and proper disposal of non-program products, please contact your garbage hauler, local environmental health agency, household hazardous waste program, or public works department.



Recycle with PaintCare

About the Oregon Program



Who Is PaintCare?

PaintCare is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, established by the American Coatings Association to implement state-mandated paint stewardship programs on behalf of paint manufacturers in states that adopt a paint stewardship law.

PaintCare is currently running or preparing to implement programs in California, Connecticut, Oregon, and Rhode Island.

Paint Drop-Off Sites

PaintCare has established drop-off sites at paint retail stores, government-run household hazardous waste programs, transfer stations and other locations across Oregon. PaintCare sites accept latex paint (and other water-based program products) from all residents and businesses. PaintCare sites accept oil-based program products from all residents and from most businesses with certain restrictions. To find a site near you, visit www.paintcare.org or call (855) 724-6809.



Recycling New and Old Paint

PaintCare will make sure your paint gets recycled or properly disposed of at state-authorized paint processing facilities. You can drop off new paint and old paint, even if it is over 20 years old!

Who Can Use the Program?

In addition to residents, this program is available to trade painters, contractors, and other businesses with one restriction: If your business produces more than 220 pounds (about 25 gallons) of hazardous waste per month, you may only use the drop-off sites for your latex paint and not for your oil-based paint. To learn more about the 25 gallon restriction, contact PaintCare or the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

Limits on Quantities at Drop-Off Sites

Drop-off sites may establish limits on the quantity of products they accept. Generally, the limit in small stores will be lower than in large stores. Please check with the site in advance if you have more than 5 gallons.

What Products Are Covered?

Architectural paint or “Program Products” are defined as interior and exterior architectural paints, stains, and varnish sold in containers of 5 gallons or less. They do not include thinners, aerosols, industrial, original equipment, or specialty coatings. See back panel for examples of program and non-program products.

Funding and Fees

The program is funded by a fee that paint manufacturers pay to PaintCare for each container of architectural paint sold in Oregon. Manufacturers pass the fee to distributors and retailers, who include the fee in the purchase price of paint. Fees are by container size as follows:

Half pint or less	\$ 0.00
More than half pint to less than 1 gallon	\$ 0.35
1 gallon	\$ 0.75
More than 1 gallon to 5 gallons	\$ 1.60

Retail stores can choose whether or not to display the fee separately on sales receipts.

The fee is not a deposit – you do not receive it back when you drop off paint for recycling.

Contact Us

For more details, please visit www.paintcare.org or call (855) 724-6809.