

LATEX PAINT IS NON-TOXIC

PLEASE CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE DISPOSAL OPTIONS

Today's latex (water-based) paint has a very low level of toxicity. Disposing of it as a household hazardous waste is unnecessary and very expensive. Therefore, the Illinois EPA and Kane County encourage people with unwanted latex paint to use other options.

Please consider using these alternative disposal methods to help us keep this program available to as many residents as possible and free of cost. Thank you.

Buy a smaller can

The best way to reduce waste is by only buying as much as you need. You can buy smaller cans of paint if you only have a small job to do.

Use it up

Add an extra coat. What better place to put that last little bit of paint but right up there on the wall where it blends in perfectly. Then simply let the empty can dry and recycle it.

Paint Something Else. It doesn't even have to need the paint. Use an old piece of cardboard, some scrap lumber, or the inside of your garage. Just about anywhere would probably work to use up that last bit of paint.

Recycle it

Recycle any **empty** metal paint cans and lids. It's OK with dried paint on the inside can walls and bottom.

Recycle it at a Kane County Recycles Collection Event: A per-container recycling fee will apply at the events, payable by the resident, with cash or check. See the list of event dates at: www.countyofkane.org/recycling

Recycle it at hardware stores: Ace Hardware stores often participate in a liquid latex paint recycling program. Call you closest locations to check if they participate.

Donate or share it

Find a friend or neighbor who needs to paint a small area.

Dry it out

This program is not for dried out paint! Dried Latex paint can be disposed of in your regular household trash. Use Kitty litter, saw-dust, shredded paper or just about anything else that will absorb moisture and let the paint dry out. Depending on how full the can is, just add the absorbent to the can and mix it up. When the liquids are absorbed, leave the lid off to dry it out. Once solidified, place the cans in your regular garbage, leaving the lids off. If the lids are on, the garbage hauler can't tell if its liquid or not, and may reject the cans.

Store it for later

If you want to save the leftover paint for touch-ups, just cover the opening with plastic wrap, and replace the lid securely by hammering it down. Turning the paint can upside down creates a tight seal, and keeps the paint fresh to use again.

QUESTIONS? Call US Ecology at 1-866-373-8357





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