

Paint & Paint-related Products Disposal

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

- Measure the area you are painting to determine the amount of paint that you will need. It may also be helpful to use a [paint calculator](#).
- Save leftover paint for second coats, touch-ups, painting fences, bird houses, or even give the leftovers to a friend or neighbor.
- Donate leftover paint to community groups, your local school/theater groups, a local craft shop, sign painters, etc. If you have an unopened can of paint, please consider donating to Habitat for Humanity at a local [ReStore location](#) nearest to you.

Latex Paint

- Latex paint is not hazardous waste! Latex paints are water-based and are a safer substitute for oil-based paints. Take the top off the paint can and place it outside, away from pets and children. Allow it to harden. If the can is very full, absorb the material by mixing it with paint hardener (sold at hardware stores), sawdust, clay-based cat litter, or rags. Stir with a stick until all the paint is absorbed. When the paint is solidified, it can be discarded with your regular trash.

Oil-based Paints, Stains, Varnishes, etc.

- These types of materials are considered hazardous and should not be disposed of with your regular trash. Please take these items to a Household Hazardous Waste event. Several events are held in Chester County throughout the year. Please refer to our [Household Hazardous Waste events webpage](#) to get more information regarding the types of materials we do/do not accept and for registration.
- If you are unable to attend a Household Hazardous Waste event, please call the Household Hazardous Waste Hotline at 1-800-346-4242.

Material	Non-hazardous	Hazardous	Disposal Options
Latex Paint	✘		Regular Trash (after paint is solidified)
Lead Paint		✘	HHW Event
Oil-based Paint		✘	HHW Event
Paint Thinner		✘	HHW Event
Spray Paint		✘	HHW Event
Stains, Varnish, Shellac		✘	HHW Event
Strippers & Removers		✘	HHW Event
Turpentine		✘	HHW Event
Wallpaper Cement		✘	HHW Event

Disclaimer: This listing is provided as a public service by the Chester County Solid Waste Authority. No companies are endorsed or recommended.

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