



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE PAINT WHAT YOU CAN DO



The first option for any hazardous material is to use it up, in the manner in which it was intended. Share it with family, friends, neighbors, community groups, or anyone you know who might need such material. Possible reuse contacts:

- art departments at schools, colleges, or universities
- building contractors
- campgrounds
- community centers
- organizations involved in housing and home improvement for low income and elderly citizens
- religious facilities
- sign painters
- summer camps
- theater groups

As noted on the Hazardous Waste Disposal Chart on the website of the Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District (MSD), latex paint can be recycled or landfilled. If landfilled, residents must prepare the latex paint by removing the lid from the can, in a well-ventilated area (away from sources of heat or flame, or other hazardous materials). This allows the volatiles or fumes to dissipate, so that the latex paint will solidify. Once the latex paint is solidified (dry and hard all the way through); the can and latex paint can be disposed of with the general trash (leave the lid off of the can, so that the hauler can see that it is empty).

Lead-based paint and oil-based (lead-free) paint are classified as household hazardous waste (HHW), and must be disposed of accordingly.

For future reference, a helpful guide about what to do with different materials is MSD's Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Chart, which you can review at <http://www.msd.st-louis.mo.us/CommOutReach/HHWaste/DispChart/Default.htm>.

Currently, there are no local paint recyclers.