Connecticut Paint Stewardship Program

Information for Transfer Stations

Connecticut’s new paint stewardship law supports paint collection activities at waste transfer stations.

Paint Stewardship Program in Connecticut A law passed in 2011 goes into effect this summer. The new law requires manufacturers of paint to establish a Paint Stewardship Program in Connecticut. Municipal and private waste transfer stations can participate by offering paint recycling to their customers and municipal agencies. The cost of transportation and recycling of program products will be paid by the Program. Funding for the Program comes from an assessment fee on the sale of architectural paint sold in Connecticut starting in July 2013.

PaintCare Inc. 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 each state that adopts a paint stewardship law.

Connecticut is the third state to pass such a law. PaintCare currently operates programs in Oregon and California, and a fourth program is being planned for Rhode Island.

Making Paint Recycling More Convenient PaintCare will establish drop-off sites statewide for residents and businesses to take leftover architectural paint. Although most drop-off sites will be at paint retailers, municipal and private transfer stations, and household hazardous waste (HHW) programs may also volunteer to be PaintCare drop-off sites.

Benefits to Transfer Stations

- Make recycling of leftover paint more convenient for your community
- Help Connecticut conserve resources and keep paint out of the solid waste stream
- Save money on municipally generated leftover paint

PaintCare Partners Receive

- Storage bins
- Transportation and recycling services for the collected paint
- On-site staff training and training materials
- Program brochures and signage
- Free publicity (optional) if your site allows the public to drop off program products
Water-Based (Latex) Paint is a Resource
An important goal of the PaintCare Program is to conserve resources and increase the volume of paint that is recycled. Residents and businesses in Connecticut are currently instructed to let water-based paint dry out and then dispose of the dry paint in the trash. Few transfer stations in Connecticut recycle latex paint because it is expensive to manage. Through the PaintCare program, latex paint will be treated as a resource and recycled to the maximum extent possible.

What Products are Covered?
Architectural paints ("Program Products") are defined as interior and exterior architectural coatings sold in containers of 5 gallons or less. However, they do not include aerosol products (spray cans), industrial maintenance (IM), or specialty coatings. Examples are provided below.

Program Products
- 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

Non-Program Products
- Paint thinners, mineral spirits, solvents
- Aerosol paints (spray cans)
- 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
- 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

Drop-Off Site Responsibilities
- Provide secure storage area for storage bins (drums or cubic yard boxes shown above)
- Accept program products from your customers during normal operating hours
- Properly pack program products in storage bins
- Assist transporter with loading and unloading of full and empty storage bins
- Complete minimal paperwork related to tracking outgoing paint shipments
- Ensure staff are trained in PaintCare program guidelines and operating procedures