

How to safely discard leftover



Latex paint is not hazardous



Empty and dried up latex paint cans should go into your garbage cart!

Because latex paint is non-toxic, you can place empty and dried up paint cans with the lids off into the garbage cart.

Do not put cans with liquid paint out for pick up.

How to dry out latex paint for safe disposal:

- * If you have an inch or less of paint left in the can, remove the lid and let the paint dry out. Protect from freezing and rain as well as children and animals. This method works best in warm weather.
- * If you have more than an inch of paint left in the can, try one of these methods:
 1. Mix latex paint with an equal amount of cat litter, stir and allow to harden.
 2. Mix latex paint with cement, stir and allow to harden. Approximately 10 pounds of cement will solidify one gallon of latex paint. Use a suitably-sized container for mixing.



After latex paint has dried, place the open cans in your garbage cart.

Oil-based paint is hazardous waste



Empty oil-based paint cans with the lids off can go into your garbage cart!

But...

- Partially full or full cans of oil-based paint must be taken to a household hazardous collection site for proper disposal.
- Do not put cans of oil-based paint out in your cart for pick up.



- * Unlike latex paint, oil-based paint should not be dried out or solidified. **Oil-based paint is flammable or combustible whether wet or dry.**
- * Never put flammable products, such as oil-based paint or thinner, down any drain or into the garbage.

Got leftover paint?

Here are some easy ways to reduce the amount of leftover paint:

- * **BUY ONLY WHAT YOU NEED.** Retailers can help you calculate the right amount of paint for your project. Typically, one gallon of paint will provide one coat for 300 square feet.
- * **BUY LESS FOR THE NEXT PROJECT.** Use leftover paint as a base coat on another project.
- * **SAVE IT FOR A FUTURE USE.** If properly stored, paint stays good for a long time. To prevent paint from drying out, cover the surface with kitchen plastic wrap, then replace the lid securely. Finally, store the paint can upside down in an area where it can't freeze.
- * **GIVE IT AWAY.** Ask friends, relatives, neighbors, churches, theatrical groups, schools, recreation departments or community organizations (see list on other side) if they can use your leftover paint. Only give away paint that is in good condition and in its original container with an intact label.



A City of East Baton Rouge Recycling Office publication

Visit www.brgov.com/recycle for upcoming household hazardous waste drop-off dates and locations and recycling information.