



## Hazardous Waste Program Factsheet

# Paint Management

All used paint must be recycled or disposed of as hazardous waste.

The following activities are illegal:

- Never air dry unused paint for the purpose of disposal.
- Never pour paint down the sewer, storm drain, or on the ground.
- Never dump it on the ground or place in a dumpster.
- Never mix paints with absorbent materials, such as kitty litter, in order to throw in the trash.

**Paint Disposal:** All unwanted paint (latex paint, flammable oil-base paint, aerosol paint cans...) must be disposed of through EH&S. Submit a hazardous waste pickup request to EH&S for disposal and include a recharge number. Label the paint cans with the hazardous waste labels provided by EH&S. EH&S will pickup up the paint and send it to a recycler or hazardous waste facility for disposal.

**Latex Paint Rinse Water:** Latex paint rinse water from washing brushes, rollers, or spray equipment can be drain disposed into the sanitary sewer. However, it is illegal to pour latex paint rinse water down storm drains or onto the ground at a construction site.

**Empty paint containers:** Empty paint cans, brushes, and other applicators are not hazardous waste if all remaining paint is dry. These can be placed in the regular trash. Empty aerosol paint cans must be free of all liquid and propellant to be placed in the trash, otherwise they need to be given to EH&S for proper disposal.

**Minimizing paint waste:** Paint Disposal is costly to the University. To reduce your disposal cost buy only what you need, use leftover paint on other projects, and give paint to other departments that may be able to reuse it.