



Bucks County Planning Commission  
Office of Recycling  
1260 Almshouse Road  
Doylestown, PA 18901  
215-345-3400  
215-345-3886 Fax



## What should I do with leftover paint?

To properly dispose of leftover paint the following are the recommended disposal options.

### REDUCE

First - Buy only what you need and return any unopened cans. If you are at the end of a job and realize you need only a small amount to finish, exchange the unopened can for a smaller quantity.

### REUSE

If you do have leftover paint, use it as an undercoat, second coat, touch-ups, projects (fences, birdhouses, basements), offer it to a friend or neighbor, OR donate leftover paint to community groups, schools, local theater group, recreation department, sign painter, etc.

### RECYCLE

Usable leftover latex paints can be blended together to produce a gray or beige paint. Oil-based paints may also be mixed together. **DO NOT MIX OIL-BASED PAINT AND LATEX PAINT.**

### DISPOSE OF PAINTS SAFELY AND PROPERLY

Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia counties are working together to help rid the environment of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW). If the dates in Bucks County are not convenient, you may participate in any of the above counties' collection events. For additional dates and information call the Pennsylvania HHW Hotline at 800-346-4242.

### LATEX PAINT

Latex paint is not hazardous waste! Latex paints are water-based and are safer alternative than oil-based paints. But if the paint is unusable and you must get rid of it, there are things you can do.

The goal is to simply get the latex paint (which is water based) into a non-liquid form. This can be done in one of two ways.

1. Let it air dry -- Lift off the lid, place the can away from children and pets, and allow the water content of the paint to evaporate. Once it does, the semi-dry to dry paint left in the bottom of the can may be placed in a plastic trash bag and disposed in your regular waste pick-up.

2. Mix it with "kitty litter" or other absorbent -- If it takes too long to evaporate the water content, you can mix the paint with an absorbent (clay based kitty litter, vermiculite, shredded newspaper, or shop "oil-dry" absorbent). This can be done in the paint can itself if you have only a quart or so in the can, or in a plastic tray. Mix 2 to 4 cups of absorbent into each quart of paint. After the absorbent has soaked up the paint and it is no longer a liquid, dump it onto a couple layers of newspaper, wrap it up and place it in a plastic trash bag and dispose of it in your regular waste pick-up. If you mixed the absorbent into the paint right in the can, simply place the open can and its non-liquid contents into a trash bag for disposal.

### OIL-BASED PAINT

Save oil-based paint for one of the following **Household Hazardous Waste Collection events scheduled in 2008.**

**April 12<sup>th</sup>** – Bensalem Township Public Works Facility – 3800 Hulmeville Road (Enter from Byberry Rd.)

**May 3<sup>rd</sup>** – Lower Makefield Corporate Center - South – 770 Township Line Road – Lower Makefield Twp.

**June 21<sup>st</sup>** - Upper Bucks County Vo-Tech School, 3115 Ridge Road in Bedminster Twp.

**July 19<sup>th</sup>** - Middle Bucks Institute of Technology, 2740 Old York Road (Route 263) in Warwick Twp.

**August 16<sup>th</sup>** - Bucks County Technical High School, 640 Wistar Road, Bristol Township

**September 27<sup>th</sup>** - Quakertown Community Pool, Mill Street in Quakertown Borough, and

All Collection Events will take place rain or shine from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.