



HOW TO DISPOSE OF LEFTOVER PAINTS

You can help your town avoid the cost of disposing of paints through household hazardous waste collections and reduce the amount of leftover paint in your home by trying these methods:

Recycle Paint: The Towns of Barnstable, Bourne, Brewster, Chatham, Dennis, Harwich, Orleans, Provincetown, Truro and Wellfleet accept usable oil and latex paints and stains at the Recycling Center or Transfer Station.

Absorb Paint: Larger quantities of latex paint, more than two inches in the bottom of a can, may be absorbed with clay-based kitty litter. Pour kitty litter into a box or container, then pour the paint into the box and stir until all liquid is absorbed. Put the box into your household trash. Recycle open, dry paint cans

Evaporate Paint: Latex paint may be disposed of by allowing the liquid to evaporate—move the container to a sheltered, secure outdoor area away from children and pets; remove the lid and allow paint to dry. Once the liquid evaporates, recycle the open can. Small quantities of oil-based paint—up to two inches in the bottom of the can—may also be disposed of in this manner. Recycle larger quantities of oil-based paint or take to HHP collection.

Use Paint Up: Before you buy new paint, try to use up what you already have. Leftover paint can be used as a prime coat or to paint items where matching colors is not a concern.

Recycle Empty Cans: Leave the lid off the can to dry the remaining paint residue, then recycle the open can with metal cans at your town's recycling center. Recycle empty aerosol cans at the recycling center.



Barnstable County

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS PROGRAM

Collaborating with the University of Massachusetts Extension

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