



Guide to Paint Disposal

Paint contains chemicals such as solvents and metals that can be harmful when released into the environment. These chemicals can also be disruptive to treatment of municipal waste water.

**Do your part to help keep our drinking water clean
by never dumping paint outside or down a drain.**

Proper Paint Storage

If you do store leftover paint, do it right! Keep paint in a dry, ventilated location that does not freeze. Make sure all cans are tightly sealed by covering the opening with plastic wrap before securing the lid. Stored properly, paint can remain usable for up to 15 years!

Consider Donating: Usable cans of paint at least half full should be donated to churches, schools and community groups.

What kind of Paint?

Most paint products found in your home can be classified into two categories: *latex-based* or *oil-based*.

Latex/Water –based paint and other Products

Remove the lid to let small quantities of latex paint air dry. Stir in cat litter, oil dry or sawdust to help larger quantities of latex paint dry faster. Or pour thin layers of paint onto newspapers to dry. When dry, it can be thrown away in the garbage.

Oil Paint and Other Products

Oil paint, lead paint, stain, varnish, spray paint, thinners, and other products that are not water/latex based should not be dried but taken to the Regional Collection Center (RCC) for disposal. This service is free to Dubuque & Delaware county residents. Check the website or call for operation hours for the center. HHM should be home managed by storing safely or using materials as they were intended.

Hours of Operation for Residential Drop Off:

November—March: 10:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m. Mondays, Fridays, and Saturdays

April—October: 7:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday

www.dmaswa.org

563-557-8220