

Latex Paint

- When buying paint, estimate correctly how much you need when you buy it. Average coverage rate is 400 to 450 sq ft per gallon.
- For leftover paint, apply a second coat or paint your closets or cabinets. Try to donate it to someone who may use it: friends, neighbors, churches, high schools, theater groups, recreation departments or community service organizations.

It is illegal to dispose of wet paint in WI landfills; if not already dry, it must be dried before placing in or with the trash. Please read below for tips on drying latex paint.

Latex paint is water soluble and *not considered a hazardous material*; therefore, it is not accepted at the county's hazardous waste collection sites. (See also [general paint guidelines](#) for helpful brochures and instruction on other types of paint.)

What to do with leftovers?

1. Use it all up. Estimate correctly how much you need when you buy it. Average coverage rate is 400 to 450 sq ft per gallon. Apply a second coat or touch up. Paint your closets or cabinets. Try to donate it to someone who may use it: friends, neighbors, churches, high schools, theater groups, recreation departments, or community service organizations.
2. Dry out the paint. Use "waste paint hardener" or add some cat litter to the paint to speed up the drying process. Once dry you can put out at the curb with your other trash, but leave the top off so your hauler knows it's hardened and acceptable.

Products such as "Waste Paint Hardener" are available at most hardware stores e.g. Home Depot, Menards, Ace, True Value. It solidifies latex paint into a hard gel in seconds rather than days. It costs about \$2-\$3 per packet.

Jensen Environmental Management on College Ct in Muskego (between Tess Corners Dr and Sunnyslope Rd) will accept latex paint for a fee from any Waukesha County resident. (The paint is recycled at another location.)

- Hours for latex paint drop-off for Waukesha County residents are Mon-Fri 9-5 and the 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month, 8-noon.
- Fee is approximately \$.25 per LB (about \$1.75 for a full gallon can of paint). **Fee applies for ALL days and times and ALL County residents!**
- **You must call 30 min ahead of time for weigh scale availability (414-422-9169)**