

PEMI-BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Manage Leftover Latex Paint Properly



Traditionally, a lot of latex paint is brought to the District's HHW collections. Unfortunately, this results in a lot of disappointed and frustrated people when it is explained to them that latex paint is not accepted at the collection events. Latex paint is water based, and thus, when dried is not considered hazardous and may be disposed of with your regular household trash. At a time when municipal budgets are stretched, we are doing our best to ensure that limited funds set aside for household hazardous waste are used in the most efficient manner.

Try to avoid creating leftover latex paint in the first place, by buying only what you need. Typically, one gallon of paint will cover 400 square feet. Measure your project area before you buy. If you still have leftover latex paint, dry it and then dispose of it in your household trash with the lid off. For small amounts of latex paint, pop the lid and let the liquid evaporate outdoors, in a safe and secure place away from children and pets. For larger volumes, add kitty litter, sawdust, or another type of absorbent to the paint to accelerate the drying process.

Do Not Bring Latex Paint to the District's HHW Collections ... It WILL NOT Be Accepted!

PEMI-BAKER SOLID WASTE DISTRICT

Help Us Save Your Tax Dollars!



Your town is a member and pays dues to the Pemi-Baker Solid Waste District which helps to pay for the expenses associated with the District's annual household hazardous waste (HHW) Collection Program. It is expensive to collect and properly dispose of these wastes (over 80% of the District's budget goes to cover the expenses related to the one-day collections and the fluorescent light recycling program).

You can help to keep our disposal/recycling costs down and save tax dollars by following these simple, but important suggestions:

- *Air-dry your latex paint – when dry, dispose of it in your household trash*
- *Consider non-toxic alternatives*
- *If you must buy chemical products, buy only the amount needed to complete the job*
- *Store products so they last*
- *Share usable leftover products with family and friends*
- *Donate usable leftover products to schools or local community groups*