

FACT SHEET

DISPOSAL OF PAINT ... THE RIGHT WAY!

When purchasing paint, remember to estimate the exact amount required for the job. Buy only what you need. Ask your retailer for assistance.

Always be sure to read the label, which contains important information regarding the product.

The best and easiest way to dispose of left over paint is to use it all up. Apply a second coat or touch up, as needed.

Leftover paint can be given to someone else, who has a need for the product. Make sure that any product you "donate" is in its original container and has its label intact.

Water-based paints can be left to dry by removing the lid and allowing the left-over paint to dry. This should be done in an area which is well away from children and animals. Allow the paint to dry completely. Most local Councils will allow the container to be disposed of in the weekly household trash. However, it is advisable to check first. Remember to leave the lid off, so that the refuse remover can see that the paint has hardened.

Solvent-based paints require special disposal practices. They are also ignitable

and present other hazards. These products must never be poured down storm drains, the household sink (especially if you have a septic tank), or on the ground.

Solvent-based paints should be disposed of as a household hazardous waste. Many State Governments and local Councils provide a service to collect and properly dispose of waste household paint.

The APMF has also now launched the Paintback Scheme as a cost-effective solution for households and trade painters to remove unwanted paint and packaging. Paintback is in the process of establishing collection points Australia-wide and is funded by an ACCC-approved 15 cents per litre levy on certain Architectural and Decorative products

For more information visit:

www.paintback.com.au.

If your local community does not undertake such programs, contact either your Local or State Government Environmental Protection Agency, for disposal guidance.

Finally, paint thinners, turpentine, mineral spirits and solvents should never be poured down a drain for the storm sewer.