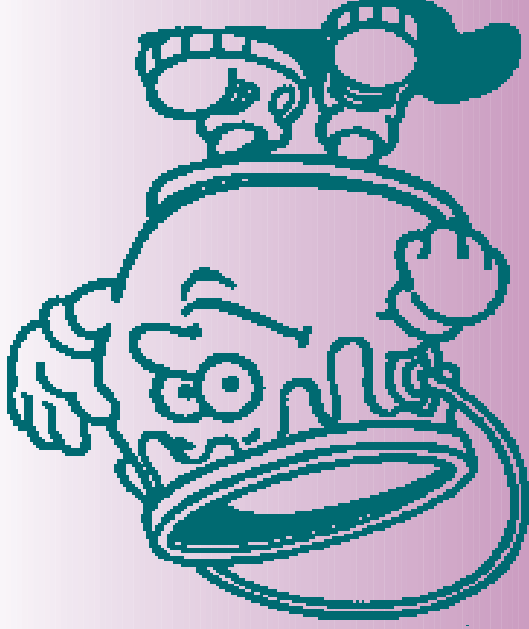


# Mid Michigan Waste Authority's Household Paint\* Handling Guide



## What to Do with Leftover Paint & Paint Products

\* Look inside for details on MMWA's  
Paint ReNew drop-off program

| MMWA Members            |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Albee Twp               | James Twp               |
| Bethany Twp             | Fremont Twp             |
| Birch Run Twp           | Frankenmuth Twp         |
| Birch Run Twp           | City of Frankenmuth     |
| Village of Birch Run    | Chesaning Twp           |
| Blumfield Twp           | Village of Chesaning    |
| Brady Twp               | Chapin Twp              |
| Brant Twp               | Carrollton Twp          |
| Brant Twp               | Buena Vista Twp         |
| Village of Breckenridge | Bridgport Twp           |
| City of Saginaw         | Village of Breckenridge |
| Saginaw Twp             | City of Saginaw         |
| St. Charles Twp         | Saginaw Twp             |
| Village of St. Charles  | St. Charles Twp         |
| Spaulding Twp           | Village of St. Charles  |
| Swan Creek Twp          | Spaulding Twp           |
| Thomas Twp              | Swan Creek Twp          |
| Titabawassee Twp        | Thomas Twp              |
| Wheeler Township        | Titabawassee Twp        |
| City of Zilwaukee       | Wheeler Township        |

### Tips for Handling Unwanted Household Paint Materials

- Buy only the quantities you need
- Keep products in their original containers
- Store products according to label directions
- Avoid skin contact and vapors
- NEVER mix different products.
- If products exceed your needs, ask friends, neighbors, or charitable organizations if they can use them
- Always dispose of products in the approved manner, or take them to a household hazardous waste collection (see inside for details)

For more information, contact:

**Mid Michigan  
Waste Authority**  
7950 Gratiot, Suite 5  
Saginaw MI 48609  
989-781-9555  
fax: 989-781-9559  
www.mmwa191.org



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## MMWA's Paint ReNew Program



The Mid Michigan Waste Authority  
Paint ReNew program offers 2 different  
locations for area residents to drop-off  
unwanted latex and oil-based paints. Paint must  
follow these guidelines:

- All paint must be in original containers.
- Latex paint containers must be at least half full. See the preparation guidelines in this brochure for disposal of smaller amounts.
- No solvents, stains, rust preventative paint, aerosol cans of paint, or automotive paints are accepted. See the section on "Non-Paint Products" in this brochure for proper handling.
- Only residential paint is accepted - no paint from businesses or contractors.

### Paint ReNew Locations

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>Carrollton Twp office</b><br>1645 Mapleridge<br>3420 Carrollton Rd       | M-F 8-3<br>989-754-8076                              |
| <b>Carrollton Hardware</b>  | M-F 8-5:30; Sat 8-3<br>989-753-9661                  |
| <b>Gamm's Hardware</b><br>7251 Midland Rd./Freeland                         | M-Sat 8-6; Sun 10-5<br>989-695-5741                  |
| <b>Gewitz Hardware</b><br>144 W. Broad St./Chesaning                        | M-F 8-6; Sat 8-5<br>989-845-3765                     |
| <b>Habitat Restore Saginaw</b><br>315 W. Holland Ave./Saginaw               | M-F 9-5<br>Sat 10-3                                  |
| <b>Hemlock Ace Hardware</b><br>216 W. Saginaw/Hemlock                       | M-F 8-7<br>Sat 8-6; Su 10-4<br>989-642-2314          |
| <b>Merrill Hardware</b><br>123 N. Midland St./Merrill                       | M-F 8-5; Sat 10-3<br>989-643-5566                    |
| <b>St. Charles<br/>Community Hardware</b><br>143 S. Saginaw St./St. Charles | M,W,F, Sat 8-7<br>T,Th 8-8, Sun 10-5<br>989-865-9973 |
| <b>Schmitzer Hardware</b><br>11944 Conquest/Birch Run                       | M-F 8-6; Sat 9-5<br>989-624-9222                     |

## So You Have Leftover Paint?

Paint comes in latex and oil-based formulas, and each have different disposal methods. Painting can also generate other related, hard-to-dispose of items such as paint thinners and solvents. These related products are household hazardous waste (HHW) and should be handled and disposed of with special care. In this brochure, you will learn a variety of methods for handling these materials.



## How About Non-Paint Products Like Solvents and Stains?

Recycle used solvents by allowing the paint pigments to settle to the bottom of the can. Pour the clarified liquid into another labeled container for reuse. To properly handle the remaining solvent and paint sludge, follow the steps in the "What About Oil-Based Paints?" section.



If you're unable to use or donate leftover solvents, thinners or stains, store it safely until you can take it to a household hazardous waste (HHW) collection event.

Mid Michigan Waste Authority (MMWA) holds free HHW collection events each year for Saginaw County residents. Call MMWA at 989-781-9555 or check the website at [www.mmwa1991.org](http://www.mmwa1991.org) for collection dates.

The Saginaw County Health Department also conducts HHW collection events by appointment only. For information on event dates, locations and to make an appointment, call Public Health at 989-758-3686.

## What Can Be Done With Usable Unwanted Paint?

- ◆ Give away useful quantities of leftover paint to family, friends and neighbors.
- ◆ Donate it for reuse by local churches, animal shelters, housing authorities and theater groups.
- ◆ Habitat for Humanity's Restore Saginaw collects and resells usable paint and a wide variety of other home remodeling items at a reduced rate. Call Restore at 989-754-9435 to donate or purchase paint.

## What About Unusable Latex Paint?

Latex paint can be made safe for disposal through your regular trash program by following these do-it-yourself tips.

1. Make the liquid paint into a solid before placing it in the trash. Use one of these methods:

◆ **Dry it Up:** This method works best with paint cans with less than 2 inches of paint in the bottom. Remove lids and place open cans in a well-ventilated area, away from children and pets until dried.

◆ **Absorb It:** Mix paint with an absorbent, such as shredded newspaper, cat litter or a product intended to solidify or clean up oil spills. Allow mixture to completely dry.

2. After the paint is thoroughly dry, leave the lid off the can and set it out with the regular trash.
3. To recycle empty paint cans, wipe the dried paint out of can and lid. Place both in your mixed container recycling bin.

## What About Oil-Based Paints?

Handle oil-based paints with great care. They are ignitable and have potentially harmful fumes; follow the label instructions for use and disposal.

When solidified, oil-based paints can be safely disposed of with the regular trash. Follow these do-it-yourself tips:

1. Evaporate volatile components first. Remove lids and place open cans in a well-ventilated area, away from children and pets.

2. Absorb it. Mix paint with an absorbent, such as shredded newspaper, cat litter or other absorbent. Allow absorbent to dry thoroughly.

3. After the paint is thoroughly dry, leave the lid off the can and set out the solidified paint with the regular trash.

4. Use up small amounts. Apply leftover paint to scrap lumber or cardboard. Keep children and pets away while the paint is drying. Place the scrap lumber or cardboard in the regular trash according to trash guidelines.

## The Next Time You Paint:

- ◆ To avoid the need to dispose of leftover paint, properly measure your project area.
- ◆ Get help from your local paint retailer to determine the proper paint quantity for the job or do-it-yourself with the help of a paint calculator from an Internet paint site.



**Remember: Never pour paint, thinners, turpentine, mineral spirits or any other solvents down a drain or sewer, or dump them on land or in a waterway.**

