

ACCEPTABLE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE MATERIALS

The following is a representative list of the types of materials that will be accepted at each collection:

Household

oil-based paint, varnish, stain, shellac, paint strippers
turpentine, paint thinners
wood preservatives
dry-cell batteries
metal cleaners, ammonia cleaners
furniture, floor, and metal polishes
floor care products/wax stripper
mercury bearing waste (such as elemental mercury, thermostats, thermometers, fluorescent lamps, and mercury switches)
rug & upholstery cleaners
aerosol cans
solvent adhesives
acids
hobby supplies (rubber cement, airplane glue, etc.)
photography chemicals
chemistry set chemicals
flammable liquids, fire starters
artist supplies
fiberglass resins
2,4,5 trichlorophenoxyacetic

Lawn/Garden

insecticides
pesticides
poisons
herbicides
weed killers
fungicides
fertilizers
flea/tick powder
no-pest strips
cesspool cleaners
flammable liquids
fire starters

Bathroom

toilet cleaners
medicine
cosmetics
nail polish remover
hair color
aerosol deodorant

Kitchen/Laundry

lighter fluid
oven cleaners
moth balls/crystal
drain cleaners
chlorine bleach
brighteners
spray starch
spot removers
detergents
softeners
whiteners

Automotive

waste fuels (gasoline, oil, kerosene)
tire cleaners
radiator flush
transmission fluid
degreasers
carburetor cleaner
engine solvents
antifreeze
brake fluid
car batteries
oil filters

UNACCEPTABLE HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

The following is a list of materials which will not be accepted as hazardous waste at each collection. *Some, however, may be collected as single stream materials or included as part of per car cost.*

explosives or any ordnance
medical waste (biomedical and pharmaceutical)
PCB's
radioactive material (including smoke detectors)
materials with no hazardous constituents
tires
*empty or partially empty propane tanks**
*cathode ray tubes, electronics**
*latex paint***

* may be collected as single stream materials

** communities may opt to accept as part of per car cost (*not recommended*)



LATEX PRODUCTS ARE NOT HAZARDOUS!

How do I know if it's latex (not hazardous)?

How do I know if it's oil / solvent based (hazardous)?

Best way to tell is by reading the label. *If the label is missing or unreadable, the product should be brought to a Household Hazardous Waste Collection.*

LATEX (= not hazardous)

Easiest way is to check the clean up instructions on label. If you can clean your brush or roller with soap and water, it is typically latex, or water-based and not hazardous.

Words to look for on label:

Latex	Water-based
Acrylic	Acrylic Emulsion
Ethylene glycol	Glycol
Vinyl emulsion	Poly Vinyl Alcohol

OIL / SOLVENT BASED (= hazardous)

Easiest way is to check the clean up instructions on label. If the label says you must use mineral spirits or turpentine to clean your brush or roller, then the product is oil or solvent-based.

Words to look for on label:

Combustible	Flammable	
Alkyd	Hydrocarbons	Solvent based
Oil	Lacquer	Swimming Pool Paint
Oil based	Lead	Thinner
Alkyd Resin	Linseed Oil	Two-part paint
Car or boat paint	Mineral Spirits	
Chromium	Petroleum	

Another simple way to tell is to determine its solubility in water. A small amount in a jar or cap mixed with water will show whether it is latex or solvent-based paint. Latex paint readily mixes with water since it is water-based — it becomes thinner as water is added. Solvent-based paint is insoluble in water — so the paint and water separate like vinegar and oil.

Latex vs solvent based paint

Latex Paints: Latex paints are referred to as water-thinned or water-based paints. Their major components are water, pigment and an emulsion resin (latex). Latex paint is not considered hazardous by federal definition or by most state and local regulations, and can be safely handled, if completely dried, with trash collection and disposal.

~~**Solvent-based Paints:** Solvent-based paints cover a wide variety of paint products with one defining characteristic: they are thinned with an organic solvent material, the exact type of which depends on the type of paint. These products include alkyd, epoxy, urethane and polyurethane paints. Liquid solvent-based products should be handled as household hazardous waste due to their potential flammability.~~

Source: <http://www.paint.org>

The word Alkyd on a can is synonymous with oil based paint. Also any paint or Urethane that is cleaned with Mineral Spirits is a give away that it is a oil based product.

Latex, acrylic or waterborne paints and water based urethanes or anything which can be cleaned by water is generally regarded as safer and less toxic.

Source: Fran De Leo, painter

LATEX PAINT IS NOT HAZARDOUS!

Latex paint can be disposed of as trash if dry/solid. To dry small amounts, remove lid and let the paint dry in the can. For larger amounts, mix in kitty litter, speedy dry or commercial paint hardener or pour one-inch layers of paint in a cardboard box lined with a plastic bag. Stir the paint occasionally to speed drying. Put completely dried paint in the trash.