

Proper PAINT Disposal

Tips for properly disposing of latex paint and stains.

Latex paint and stains can be safely disposed of in your garbage cart, as long as it is dry and has solidified prior to disposal. Be sure the paint or stain is LATEX before following these methods:



AIR

(this can only be done when there is less than 1 inch of paint and works best during warmer months):

- Remove the lip from the paint can and let the paint dry out.
- Make sure to keep in a safe area – away from children and animals, as well as precipitation which can prevent the paint from drying out.



CAT LITTER

Mix paint leftover paint with equal part clay-based cat litter.

- Stir until mixed completely and let the paint harden and dry. This will take approximately 10 minutes, depending on the amount of mixture.
- If the paint and cat litter has not hardened after the 10 minute period, add more cat litter and repeat until the material is thick.
- If there is not enough room in the paint can to add the cat litter to dry out the paint, pour some of the paint into a different plastic or cardboard container. A shoebox, plastic tub, or plastic food container (like yogurt) would all be acceptable containers.
- Alternatives to cat litter include: sawdust, dirt and shredded paper.



PAINT HARDENER

- Purchase paint hardener from hardware store and follow label instructions for mixing with latex paint or stain.
- Paint will have a tacky, oatmeal-like consistency when hardened and will not spill out of the paint can.



Once the latex paint has hardened, place the can without the lid in your garbage cart.



ADDITIONAL IDEAS


- Use leftover paints or stains when fixing up areas around your home, like the garage or dog house, or use the paint as a primer coat for other projects.
- Check with friends, local schools, theater groups or non-profits to see if they can use the remaining paints or stains.


HELPFUL INFORMATION

Oil based paints should be treated as hazardous household waste and disposed of in a different manner.

Buy only the amount of paint or stain that you need to prevent excessive leftovers.



Habitat for Humanity
 augustahabitat.org

Augusta Training Shop
 augustatrainingshop.com

AugustaSolidWaste.com

