



## MONMOUTH COUNTY RECYCLING DIVISION

# PAINT DISPOSAL



### Details

Disposing of unwanted paints and chemicals down sinks and drains can damage sewage and septic systems. Dumping them into a storm drain or on the ground can contaminate surface and groundwater, which we depend upon for drinking, bathing and recreation. Follow these guidelines for proper disposal and to reduce threats to human and wildlife health and the environment.

### Reduce

Properly calculating the amount of paint required for your project will reduce the amount of leftover paint that you will need to discard. There are online paint calculators to assist you.

### Reuse

Leftover paint has a shelf life of 10-15 years. Keep the paint for touch ups that might be needed in the future. To keep the paint from drying up, seal the container properly. Use a rubber mallet to tap down the lid. Store the paint in a cool, dark location like a basement or someplace that is not prone to extreme temperatures.

If you don't want to save the paint, ask a friend or neighbor if they could use the excess. The leftover paint might be perfect for a small project. It also makes for a fun activity for children to paint old scraps of wood or a cardboard box when coupled with proper supervision. Another option is the Paterson Habitat for Humanity. You can contact them at [patersonhabitate.org/restore](http://patersonhabitate.org/restore)

### Oil Based Paints

Oil based paints are considered a household hazardous waste and should be disposed of through the County Household Hazardous Waste Facility. They are ignitable and their fumes are potentially harmful. The Facility is open Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**For further information, please contact 732-683-8686 ext. 8967 or 8961**

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