



## FREE PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FOR SUMMER PAINT DROP-OFF SEASON

### NEW PAINTCARE SITES & ONE-DAY DROP-OFF EVENTS

With the busy spring and summer paint collection season upon us, paint retailers continue to sign up to become year-around drop-off sites for leftover paint in both Connecticut and Rhode Island. PaintCare currently has 140 drop off sites in Connecticut and 29 sites in Rhode Island.

Although paint retailers continue to be the most convenient locations for households and businesses to drop off unwanted paint, PaintCare is hosting one-day paint drop-off events at which any Connecticut business or household can get rid of larger quantities of paint that may have accumulated over long periods of time. Households may drop off either latex or oil-based paint, while business may only drop off latex products. These events will be held in New London (May 30), Enfield (June 6), and Stamford (June 20). Events were already held in Danbury and Middletown in April.

One-day paint drop-off events are not conducted in Rhode Island. The Rhode Island Resource Recovery EcoDepot provides locations throughout the state where residents may drop-off unwanted paint year-round. These locations—in combination with retail drop-off sites—provide residents with convenient opportunities to get rid of leftover paint.

After completion of the spring drop-off events in Connecticut and as the state's paint stewardship program enters its third year of operations, PaintCare will seek input from stakeholders to assess the need for future drop-off events.



### ORDER PAINTCARE EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS FREE OF CHARGE

The start of the spring/summer paint collection season is a good time to request additional public education materials that provide information about the Connecticut and Rhode Island paint stewardship programs and how unwanted, leftover paint is managed. PaintCare has developed the materials, ensured they meet the state's requirements, and provides them free of charge to all paint retailers.

PaintCare has a variety of materials available: state-specific brochures, minicards, and 8.5"x11" posters that can be placed at the paint department or at check-out. To view these items, as well as factsheets for painting contractors or our large volume pickup service, please visit the Connecticut page or Rhode Island page of the PaintCare website. To place an order for materials, just download an order form, call (855) PAINT09, or send an e-mail to [info@paintcare.org](mailto:info@paintcare.org).



### SIGNS

In addition to printed materials, PaintCare offers a variety of free signs for retailers who serve as paint drop-off sites:

"PaintCare Partner" signs help promote the program to the public.

"Acceptable Products" signs are helpful when explaining the program to staff or the public.

"No Dumping" signs are intended for outdoors to discourage people from leaving materials when the site is closed.

"Please Wait for Assistance" signs for locations that prefer customers to speak with staff before bringing paint into the store.



Signs are available in small or large sizes. To request these or special order signs about the program, please contact Laura Honis, Connecticut and Rhode Island program manager, at [lhonis@paint.org](mailto:lhonis@paint.org) or (203) 747-4494.

## SPOTLIGHT ON COATINGS: FLOOR COATINGS

When they think of architectural coatings, most consumers immediately think of house paint – whether it's for exterior siding or interior walls and ceilings. But some paint purchasers are interested in painting the material beneath their feet, especially floors that take a lot of wear, such as concrete floors in garages and basements. Although a few consumers might choose "regular paint" as a cost-effective option for sprucing up old interior floors in living spaces, there are special coatings designed specifically for floors. Which of these are PaintCare products?

**Floor Paints:** Commonly marketed as "porch and floor paint," floor paints can be either latex or oil-based and can be used on wood, concrete, and other surfaces, such as vinyl. They typically are applied to porches, decks, basements, and patios. These paints have the added bonus in that leftovers can sometimes be used for smaller painting projects, like trellises, patio furniture, or a garden shed. As with most floor paints, primers used with floor paint and single-component urethanes that are sometimes used as a top coat, are PaintCare products; the PaintCare fees are applied, and they are accepted at PaintCare drop-off sites.

**Clear Floor Finishes:** Varnish, shellac, and lacquer floor finishes are normally PaintCare products unless they are two parts or considered IM Coatings (see below).

**Epoxy Floor Coatings:** Recognized as being tougher than other floor paints or stains, epoxy finishes provide durability and are often used on garage floors where they can resist heat from vehicle tires, as well as stand up to moisture and oil spills. If a two-part epoxy, both parts are mixed just prior to use to start a chemical reaction. The timeframe in which the mixed components can be applied is relatively short (sometimes called the "pot life"). If the mixed coating is not used, it will harden in the container. Only single component epoxies are PaintCare products; two component coatings are not PaintCare products.

**Two-Component Coatings are "Out":** Some floor paints, clear finishes, epoxy, and urethane floor finishes are two-part coatings sold with two containers that are mixed prior to application and usually labeled Part A and Part B. Part A is usually a resin and Part B is usually a catalyst to start the chemical reaction and speed up curing time. Two-part coatings are not PaintCare products.

**IM Coatings are "Out":** Some floor finishes, whether they are paint, clear coatings, or epoxies are classified as industrial maintenance (IM) coatings because they are intended for specific purposes, such as exposure to abrasion, heat, and/or chemicals. If a floor finish is labeled "for industrial use only" or "for professional use only," it is not a PaintCare product. For details about this exception, see PaintCare's product notice #4. ([www.paintcare.org/wp-content/uploads/docs/xx-product-notice-4-professional-use.pdf](http://www.paintcare.org/wp-content/uploads/docs/xx-product-notice-4-professional-use.pdf)).

**Anti-Slip Additives:** Applying an anti-slip additive (usually silica or sand) to paint—or directly to a newly painted floor—will help avoid accidents, whether from water in a laundry room or garage or rain outdoors. These products are sometimes mistaken for a two-component coating because they are sometimes sold together; however, they are not excluded from the PaintCare program—fees are applied and consumers are welcome to drop them off for recycling at a PaintCare drop-off site. For a complete list of all PaintCare products accepted at drop-off sites, visit [www.paintcare.org/products-we-accept](http://www.paintcare.org/products-we-accept).

### CONTACT

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