



Pollution Prevention

Management Practices for Paint Clean-Up

Clean-Up For Water-Based (Latex) Paint:

Brushes and rollers need only be cleaned when a job is complete rather than every day. During a job, painting equipment can be stored in plastic wrap in a cool, dry place (such as your refrigerator) so they remain pliable. When cleaning up, brush or roll the excess paint onto something that you plan to throw away such as a piece of wood or board. The painted board can be disposed of in the receptacle as garbage. The remaining small amount of latex paint from brushes, rollers, buckets and tools should be cleaned off in a sink that is connected to the sanitary sewer system. Unwanted latex paint can be recycled at the Household Hazardous Waste Facility.

Clean-Up For Oil-Based Paint:

Oil-based paints, buckets, brushes and tools should be cleaned with thinner or turpentine away from sinks, floor drains, or storm drains. Never dispose of oil-based paints, thinner, or turpentine to the sanitary sewer or storm drain. Paint thinner can be reused by allowing the sediment to settle and then decanting the clean thinner into another jar. Collect the solvents and unwanted oil-based paint and bring them to the Household Hazardous Waste Facility for proper disposal.

