

# Latex and Water Base Paints

## Your Guide for Safe Disposal and Recycling in Calumet County

### Is latex paint hazardous?

Latex paint and any water base paint, including acrylic paint, are **not** considered hazardous and can be disposed of in your garbage. When disposing of latex or water base paint make sure the paint is completely dry before throwing it away. Also, if you dispose of it in the can make sure the cover is removed. If you keep the cover on, it can create pressure and explode in the garbage truck.

A good way to avoid having too much left over paint is to use a [paint calculator](#) to find out how much paint you will need for a project.

### How to prepare non-hazardous paint for disposal

Less than 1/4 of a can left:

- Let the paint can sit open for a few days and the paint will dry up

More than 1/4 of a can left:

- One way to dry up a lot of paint is to mix in some kitty litter or shredded paper to absorb the paint.
- Another way is to spread layers on a piece of cardboard then throw it away in the garbage

If you have full, unopened cans of paint you can try to donate them to local schools, theater groups, etc.



Community Recycling in Calumet County

For more information about our programs and events, please visit [calumetreycles.com](http://calumetreycles.com)