

Paint

The best way to dispose of paint is to use it all. Buying only the amount of paint needed for a specific job reduces leftover paint. Donate excess paint to a neighbor or to a theater. Use water-based (latex) paint as opposed to oil-based paint, if possible. Oil-based is more hazardous. Liquid hazardous waste, including paint, cannot be disposed of in the garbage, nor poured down the drain. However, latex paint can be dried and disposed of with your regular garbage. Oil-based paint cannot be dried (see details below).

DRYING LATEX PAINT

- Acquire the least expensive type of cat litter possible. A two-pound bag will dry about three one-gallon cans which are each half-full.
- If a gallon can is more than half full, pour some into another can to make sure you are working with a half-full, one-gallon can (the contents will expand).
- Pour about two inches of cat litter into the can and stir it thoroughly about four times to completely absorb/dry the half-gallon paint.
- It takes one week for the paint to completely dry. Once it is dry, put the dried paint in a box that fits about four cans. Leave the paint in the can, and leave the top off.

OIL-BASED PAINT & OTHER CHEMICALS

- Liquid household hazardous waste (household chemicals) cannot be disposed of in your regular garbage, nor poured down the drain.
- Liquid products that cannot be put in the garage include oil-based paint, paint solvents such as stains, mineral spirits or paint stripper, insecticides, pesticides and other liquid chemicals.
- A "household chemical day" will be scheduled every fall (late October or early November). This event allows residents to properly dispose of most household chemicals by dropping them off at a designated site. Only residents in St. Tammany Parish may attend.

TO DONATE REUSABLE LATEX ONLY

- Habitat For Humanity Restore (WEST), 1400 North Lane, Mandeville — 9am-4pm Tuesday-Saturday — Info (985) 893-3172
- Habitat For Humanity Restore (EAST), 2229 Third Street, Slidell