

Information for PAINTING CONTRACTORS



PaintCare is a nonprofit organization created by paint companies to help consumers manage leftover paint responsibly. We provide drop-off sites and pickups where households and businesses can clear out leftover paint free of charge for recycling, reuse, and other management.



Convenient Drop-Off Sites

Contractors and their clients can bring paint to PaintCare's drop-off sites year-round. Most sites accept up to 5 gallons per visit; some take more. Find the nearest drop-off sites at www.paintcare.org/drop-off-sites.

Fee and Funding

Paint stewardship laws require a fee to be added by manufacturers to the wholesale price of all paint covered products sold in the states where PaintCare operates. The fee funds PaintCare program operations including paint collection and recycling, consumer education, and program administration.

Fee ranges vary by container size and by state. To find the fee ranges applicable to the products you are purchasing, please visit www.paintcare.org/fee.

The PaintCare fee is only added to the products collected by the program. Visit www.paintcare.org/products for the complete list of accepted and unaccepted products.



Free Pickup Service for Large Volumes

Painting contractors with at least 100 gallons of leftover paint may qualify for a free pickup. Learn more and request an appointment at www.paintcare.org/pickup.



Small containers
(e.g., pints & quarts)
\$0.30–\$0.65



Mid-size containers
(1–2 gallons)
\$0.65–\$1.45



Larger sizes
(up to 5 gallons)
\$1.50–\$2.75

Recommendations for Contractors

When estimating jobs, contractors should take the PaintCare fee into account by checking with suppliers to make sure their quotes for paint products include the fee. PaintCare suggests that painting contractors pass on the fee to customers in order to recoup the cost. Tell customers that quotes include the fee which funds the recycling program they can use.



With the exception of businesses in Illinois, to use the PaintCare program for oil-based paint, a business must qualify as an exempt generator under federal and any analogous state hazardous waste generator rules. Please visit www.paintcare.org/business-limits for more information on exempt generator rules. If your business does not qualify as an exempt generator, it will not be able to use the program for oil-based paint, but it can still use the program for latex products. (Non-exempt generators may use the pickup service in New York. Contact PaintCare for details.)

For more information, visit www.paintcare.org.