Hazardous Waste Collection Facility

Businesses
Businesses that generate less than 27 gallons or 220 pounds of hazardous waste per month (known as Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generators) can take advantage of a county-wide program. Costs are based on the type and amount of hazardous waste brought in for disposal. Businesses must have a California ID number to dispose of their waste. For information on the ID number, go to [www.dtsc.ca.gov/ID Manifest/index](http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/IDManifest/index) or call 1-800-618-6942.

Appointments are necessary: Novato businesses should call 892-6395. All other businesses in Marin should call 485-5648.

Households
Disposal is free to Marin households. Call 892-7344 for Novato residents and 485-6806 for all other residents of Marin. No appointments are necessary. Call for locations and hours of operation.

Choosing a “Green” Painter
Is your painting company listed as a “green business” that is concerned about doing the job in a way that protects our creeks and watersheds? For more information, go to [www.greenbusinessca.org](http://www.greenbusinessca.org) and [www.maringreenbusiness.org](http://www.maringreenbusiness.org)

Specialty Paints
Copper-based anti-fouling paints are polluting the Bay. Alternatives to this specialty paint can be found at [http://seagrant.ucdavis.edu](http://seagrant.ucdavis.edu)

Painting and Application of Solvents and Adhesives

Best Management Practices for the Construction Industry

Who should use this brochure?

- Painters
- Homeowners
- Paperhangers
- Plasterers
- Graphic artists
- Dry wall crews
- Floor covering installers
- General contractors
- Home builders
- Developers
Preventing Pollution: It’s Up to Us

In the San Francisco Bay Area, storm drains transport water directly to local creeks and the Bay without treatment. Unfortunately, the water carries with it common sources of pollution that include fluids from vehicles, construction debris, sediment created by erosion, landscaping runoff containing pesticides or weed killers, and materials such as used motor oil, antifreeze, and paint products that people pour or spill into a street or storm drain.

Do the Job Right!

Handling Paint Products

- Keep all liquid paint products and wastes away from the gutter, street, and storm drains. Liquid residues from paints, thinners, solvents, glues, and cleaning fluids are hazardous wastes and must be disposed of at a hazardous waste collection facility (see back of this brochure).
- When thoroughly dry, completely empty paint cans (including some aerosols), may be disposed of as garbage or recycled. Check with your local garbage hauler/recycler. Either way, take the lid off all cans to ensure they are dry and to let the hauler know they are empty.
- Brushes, rags, and drop cloths may be tossed in the garbage if they are not saturated or heavily soiled with oil paint or other flammable/combustible materials. If they are saturated – or heavily soiled – they must be brought to the hazardous waste collection facility listed on the reverse side of this brochure.

Recycle/Reuse Leftover Paints

- Recycle excess water-based (latex) paint by bringing it to the Hazardous Waste Collection Facility (See back page. Call first. No container over 5 gallons accepted.).
- Unopened cans of paint might be able to be returned to the paint vendor. Check with the vendor regarding its return policy.

Painting Cleanup

- Never rinse paint containers into a storm drain, creek, gutter or any drain.
- For water-based paints, paint out brushes as much as possible - then rinse brush in a sink with a drain that goes to the sanitary sewer. Never pour excess paint of any kind down a storm drain or any other drain.
- For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and clean with thinner or solvent in a proper container. Allow paint particles to settle and form “sludge”. Dispose of sludge at the Hazardous Waste Facility (see other side). Re-use remaining solvent/thinner.

Dispose of Unwanted Paints/Products

- Dispose of unwanted oil-based and latex paints, thinners, sludge, adhesives, etc. by bringing them to the hazardous waste facility. This includes containers with hardened residue in them – with the exception of small amounts (less than 1 inch) of hardened latex paint in a can which may be tossed in the trash with the lid taken off. (See “Hazardous Waste Collection Facility” on back of this brochure.)

Paint Removal and Building Cleaning

- Sweep paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping & sand blasting into plastic drop cloths. Dispose as trash.
- Chemical paint stripping residue and chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead, mercury or tributyl tin must be disposed of as hazardous wastes. Lead-based paint removal requires a state certified contractor. For more information, go to www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovaterightbrochure.pdf
- Wash water from painted buildings constructed before 1978 can contain high amounts of lead, even without paint chips. Before you begin pressure washing or stripping pre-1978 building exteriors, test paint for lead by taking paint scrapings to a state-certified laboratory. See Yellow Pages under Laboratories - Analytical. If laboratory analysis shows that the paint contains lead, under no circumstances should you dry sand, belt sand, use open flame or power wash.
- When stripping or cleaning building exteriors with high-pressure water, block storm drains. Direct wash water onto a dirt area and spade into soil. Or, check with the local wastewater treatment authority to find out if you can collect (mop or vacuum) building cleaning water and dispose to the sanitary sewer. Sampling of the water may be required to assist the wastewater treatment authority in making its decision.

Storm Drain Pollution from Paints, Solvents, and Adhesives

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to wildlife in local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the Pacific Ocean. Toxic chemicals may come from liquid or solid products or from cleaning residues or rags. Paint material and wastes, adhesives and cleaning fluids should be recycled when possible, or disposed of properly to prevent these materials from flowing into storm drains and waterways. All storm drains lead to local creeks, the Bay or Ocean.

Painting Cleanup

- Never rinse paint containers into a storm drain, creek, gutter or any drain.
- For water-based paints, paint out brushes as much as possible - then rinse brush in a sink with a drain that goes to the sanitary sewer. Never pour excess paint of any kind down a storm drain or any other drain.
- For oil-based paints, paint out brushes to the extent possible and clean with thinner or solvent in a proper container. Allow paint particles to settle and form “sludge”. Dispose of sludge at the Hazardous Waste Facility (see other side). Re-use remaining solvent/thinner.

Dispose of Unwanted Paints/Products

- Dispose of unwanted oil-based and latex paints, thinners, sludge, adhesives, etc. by bringing them to the hazardous waste facility. This includes containers with hardened residue in them – with the exception of small amounts (less than 1 inch) of hardened latex paint in a can which may be tossed in the trash with the lid taken off. (See “Hazardous Waste Collection Facility” on back of this brochure.)

Paint Removal and Building Cleaning

- Sweep paint chips and dust from non-hazardous dry stripping & sand blasting into plastic drop cloths. Dispose as trash.
- Chemical paint stripping residue and chips and dust from marine paints or paints containing lead, mercury or tributyl tin must be disposed of as hazardous wastes. Lead-based paint removal requires a state certified contractor. For more information, go to www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovaterightbrochure.pdf
- Wash water from painted buildings constructed before 1978 can contain high amounts of lead, even without paint chips. Before you begin pressure washing or stripping pre-1978 building exteriors, test paint for lead by taking paint scrapings to a state-certified laboratory. See Yellow Pages under Laboratories - Analytical. If laboratory analysis shows that the paint contains lead, under no circumstances should you dry sand, belt sand, use open flame or power wash.
- When stripping or cleaning building exteriors with high-pressure water, block storm drains. Direct wash water onto a dirt area and spade into soil. Or, check with the local wastewater treatment authority to find out if you can collect (mop or vacuum) building cleaning water and dispose to the sanitary sewer. Sampling of the water may be required to assist the wastewater treatment authority in making its decision.

Storm Drain Pollution from Paints, Solvents, and Adhesives

All paints, solvents, and adhesives contain chemicals that are harmful to wildlife in local creeks, San Francisco Bay, and the Pacific Ocean. Toxic chemicals may come from liquid or solid products or from cleaning residues or rags. Paint material and wastes, adhesives and cleaning fluids should be recycled when possible, or disposed of properly to prevent these materials from flowing into storm drains and waterways. All storm drains lead to local creeks, the Bay or Ocean.