**PAINT TIPS & DISPOSAL**

Broome County Division of Solid Waste Management

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**Buy The Right Size**
Find out how to buy the correct amount of paint for your project; thus minimizing the amount of leftover paint for storage, recycling or disposal.

**Store It Properly**
- Cover the opening of the paint can with plastic wrap before closing the lid. Use a mallet instead of a hammer to close the paint can, creating a good seal.
- Store the paint can upside down to create a tight seal around the lid.
- Store paint away from extreme heat and cold.
- Write on the lid of each paint can the date opened, the color, brand and the room it is for.

**Use It All Up**
Use up all your leftover paint to minimize the amount of paint needing to be stored, reused, recycled or disposed of locally.

**Donate It**
Contact Habitat for Humanity and other service groups for possible donation.

**Disposal of Paint**
*Oil-based paint is a combustible material.* It must be disposed of at the Broome County Household Hazardous Waste Facility. Call 778-2250 for more information.

**How to properly dispose of latex paint:**
1. Remove and **discard** the paint can lid.
2. Make sure the paint can is ½ full or less. (if the can is more than ½ full, pour excess into another container, like a milk jug or coffee can)
3. Add clay-based kitty litter or absorbent material so the can is ¾ full.
4. Stir paint/kitty litter mixture. If liquid paint remains, add more kitty litter.
5. Allow paint/kitty litter mixture to air dry until hard (should take approximately 1-2 days).
6. Dispose of can in garbage.

**NOTE:** Do not put the lid back on the paint can! Cans will not be picked up by your hauler if they can’t see that the paint is dry.