

For more facts about the Paint and Coatings Industry, visit [www.paint.org/environmentalfacts](http://www.paint.org/environmentalfacts).





The American Coatings Association (ACA) created PaintCare®, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose sole purpose is to ensure effective operation and efficient administration of paint product stewardship programs on behalf of all architectural paint manufacturers in the United States. Unused or leftover paint is a major focus of product stewardship efforts because of its high volume in the household hazardous waste stream, its high cost to manage, and the potential for increased reduction, recovery, reuse, and recycling. PaintCare® undertakes the responsibility for ensuring an environmentally sound and cost-effective program by:

- Developing and implementing strategies to reduce the generation of post-consumer architectural paint;
- Promoting the reuse of post-consumer architectural paint; and
- Providing for the collection, transport, and processing of post-consumer architectural paint using the hierarchy of “reduce, reuse, recycle,” and proper disposal.

PaintCare® participation is not limited to ACA members, but open to all architectural paint manufacturers. Legislation mandating the creation of the PaintCare® program has been enacted in nine jurisdictions since 2009, where programs are being implemented: Oregon, California, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Vermont, Minnesota, Maine, Colorado, and the District of Columbia (November 2016).

PaintCare®’s success is astounding:

- the program’s more than 1,800 paint drop-off sites — the large majority of which are paint retailers — provide access to a site within 15 miles for most residents in each PaintCare® state — that’s some 61 million U.S. residents;
- the program has collected and recycled — or responsibly managed — more than 12 million gallons of post-consumer paint (through December 2015), of which approximately 70% is latex paint and 30% is oil-based paint; and
- the program has also recycled more than 5,400 tons of metal and plastic paint cans.

Overall, paint recycling is now more convenient throughout the states in which PaintCare® operates, particularly in areas where local governments do not offer paint recycling opportunities; governments that previously collected leftover paint are realizing direct financial savings; and communities that were underserved have new services.

Those are just a few highlights of the PaintCare® program. For more information about PaintCare®, please visit the program’s website at [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org).