

## PAINT MATERIALS

- This resource is NOT intended as formal training or certification of new operators in the proper handling of paint waste. Please see the additional resources page for more information on further training and certification courses.
- Collection sites should work with their Registered Processors to ensure that materials are paint program eligible, handled, stored, and prepared for transport appropriately.

## PAINT MATERIALS

# WHAT IS THE PAINT & CONTAINERS RECYCLING PROGRAM?

Alberta collects and recycles three types of paint materials.

### SECTION 1

# 1. LATEX PAINT AND CONTAINERS



# 2. NON-LATEX PAINT AND CONTAINERS



# 3. AEROSOL SPRAY PAINT CANS (FULL AND EMPTY)



## PAINT MATERIALS

# WHAT HAPPENS TO PAINT MATERIAL COLLECTED IN ALBERTA?

## SECTION 2

As of 2022, 31.5 million litres of paint and 6.98 million spray paint cans have been recycled through Alberta's Paint Recycling Program since the program began in 2008.

31.5 MILLION LITRES OF PAINT

6.98
MILLION
SPRAY PAINT
CANS



#### HOW IS PAINT RECYCLED?

- Good quality latex paint is recycled into new latex paint
- Other latex paint is used as an alternate raw material in the cement manufacturing process
- Non-latex paint is sent to be used as a fuel blend





# HOW ARE CONTAINERS RECYCLED?

- Metal containers are baled and sent for metal recycling and are often used to create new industrial products such as rebar
- Plastic containers are recycled to make new products such as lumber, benches, and planters





## PAINT MATERIALS



SECTION 3



### STEP 1

MAINTAIN AN ORGANIZED AND CLEAN PAINT RECYCLING AREA





- Ensure the collection site signage provided by ARMA is posted in the collection area and visible to the public
- Ensure the collection area is easily accessible for the public to drop-off materials, and for processors to pick-up materials



 Have a table available for residents to place their paint materials on. A site operator can then sort and store eligible vs. ineligible program material to maximize space in the bin and ensure non-paint material is removed.





# STEP 2 REMOVE NON-PAINT MATERIALS



- Contaminating your paint bin with non-paint material (such as Household Hazardous Waste or HHW) can result in contamination charges from the Processor after the bins have been picked-up.
- Save money by ensuring paint bins contain only program eligible paint material.





# WHY ARE SOME ITEMS CONSIDERED ELIGIBLE AND SOME ARE NOT?

In order for paint products to be considered eligible material, there must have been an environmental fee paid for that material. Ineligible paint products are anything that have not captured an environmental fee.





#### ELIGIBLE PAINT MATERIALS INCLUDE:

- Latex paint in original container
- Non-latex paint in original container
- Aerosol spray paint cans
- Empty paint containers

A link to the full list will be available in the resources section at the end of this training.







#### WATCH OUT FOR IMPOSTERS!

- Adhesives (e.g. flooring, tile, landscaping)
- Contact cement
- Caulking
- Drywall compounds
- Cleaners (except deck cleaners)
- Asphalt or bitumen-based sealers
- Household hazardous waste (HHW)
- Tints and colourants
- Paint brushes, rollers, trays





What should you do if the material that is received is clearly mislabeled and unidentifiable?

Include these materials in your site's HHW containment area to avoid a potential paint contamination charge. This includes material that appears to be paint but is not in its original container.





STEP3
SORT AND STORE
PAINT MATERIALS



All sorted paint materials must be stored in appropriate containment bins with properly fitting lids.

Your processor will provide these containment bins with lids, please discuss this with them.





# KEEP PAINT AEROSOL CANS SEPARATE FROM:

- Other eligible non-aerosol paint materials
- Non-paint aerosol cans (e.g., HHW aerosols)





#### REMEMBER!

- Empty paint containers are included in the paint program. Neatly stack empty paint containers inside your paint bin with other eligible paint materials.
- Empty aerosol paint cans are also included in the paint program and should be stored in a bin or drum with other aerosol paint cans only.



## PAINT MATERIALS

# DOS AND DON'TS WHEN SORTING AND STORING PAINT MATERIAL

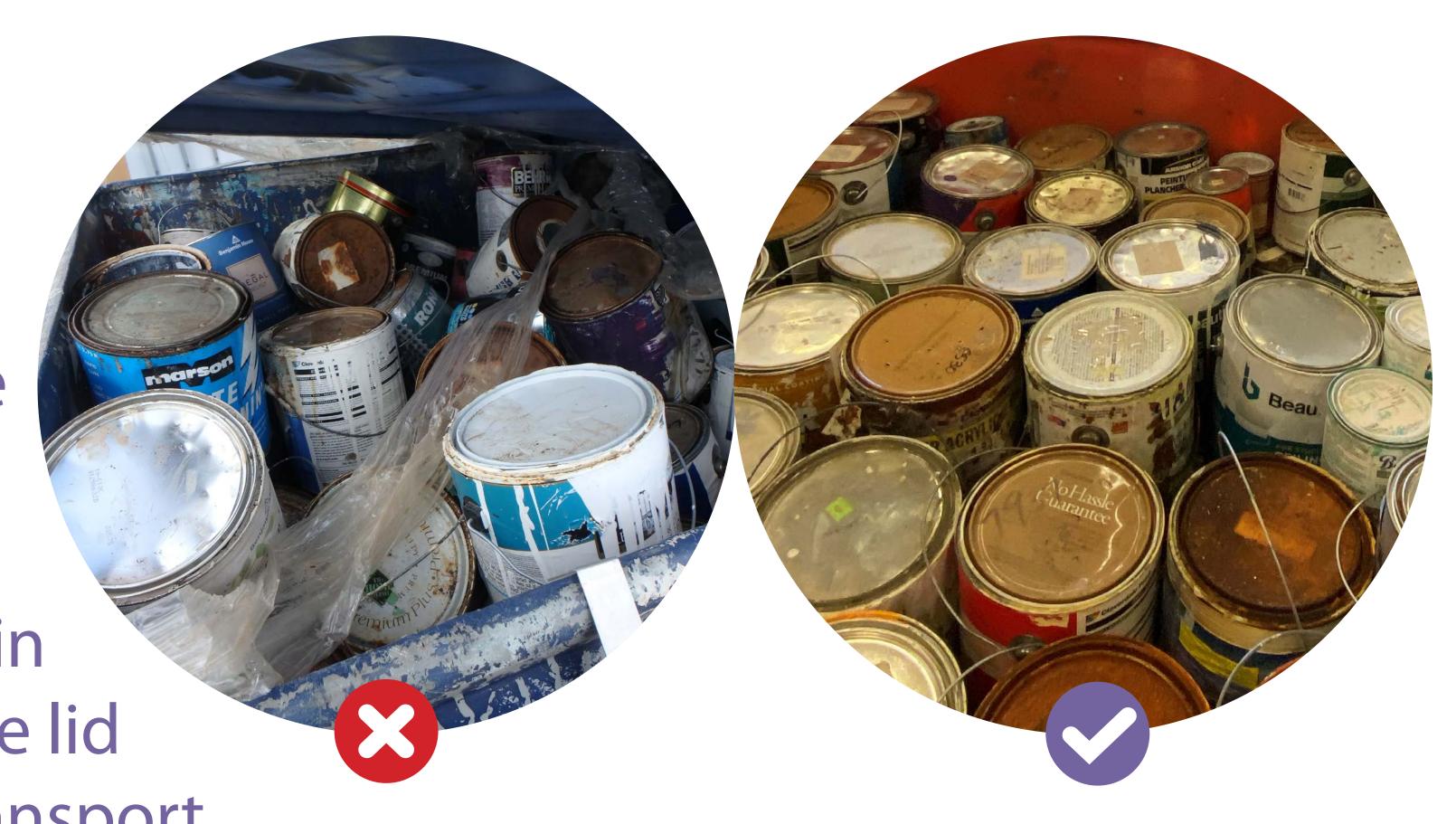
SECTION 4

#### **ODO NOT**

Fill the paint bins in a messy way.

#### O DO

Maximize the bin space by stacking containers neatly. Ensure that containers are stacked in a way that allows for the lid to fit on properly for transport.

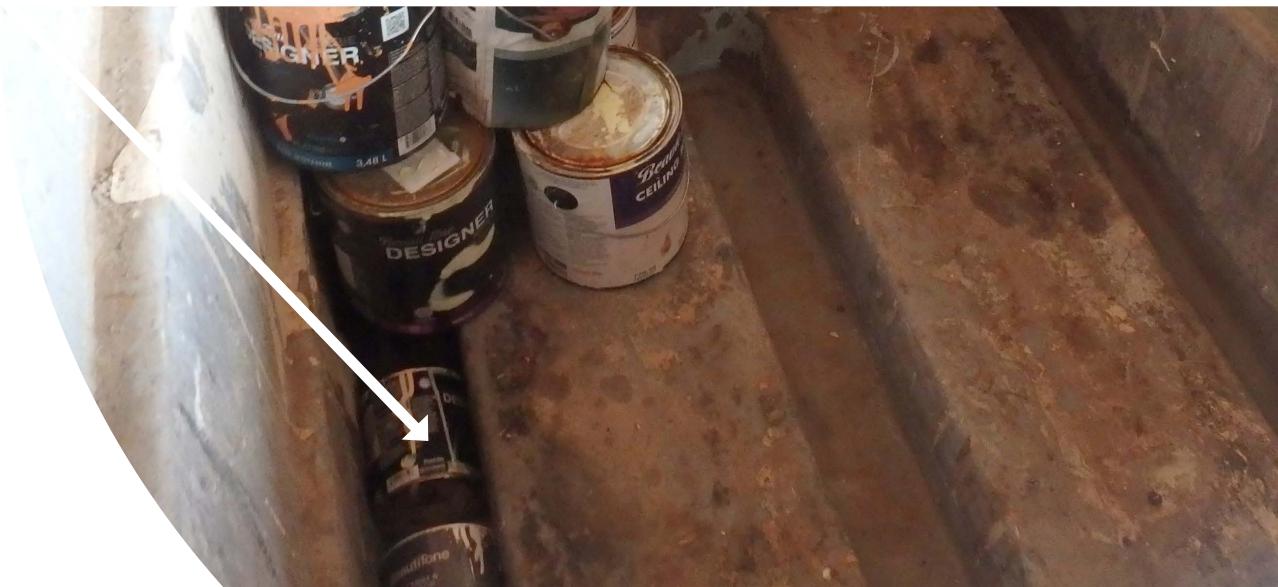




#### **OTIP**

Maximize the space in your bin. Remove paint quarts and place them in the gaps on the bin floor or on top of neatly stacked cans before placing the lid on and calling it full.





#### **3 DO NOT**

Let rainwater or snowmelt get into the bins.

#### O DO

Ensure the bin lids are on the bin to keep out snow and water.





#### WHY?

Water in paint storage bins is considered contamination and it can be costly to ensure proper disposal.



#### **OTIP**

Prevent lids from blowing away by anchoring lids using an item such as a small tire or rock.



#### **B** DO NOT

Let the public place their paint material directly into paint bins.

#### O DO

Have the public set paint items somewhere outside of the bin, such as on a shelf or cart, and have the site operators manage the sorting and stacking.





#### WHY?

This helps ensure that paint materials are properly sorted and stored. This reduces the need to resort later and avoids potential contamination charges.



#### **OTIP**

Check the paint containers by gently shaking/rocking them to ensure they are not full of ineligible material such as rocks, paint brushes, or other non-liquid ineligible material. Avoid opening paint containers unnecessarily.

#### **3 DO NOT**

Place material that is not in the original container into paint bins.

#### ODO

Ensure that all material that is not in the original containers is stored with HHW.



#### WHY?

This will help to avoid potential contamination charges if the material is not paint. Since it is unclear what the material is, play it safe and put it with your HHW.

## PAINT MATERIALS



SECTION 5

Funding is available to registered collection sites that collect eligible paint materials at their sites.

#### Paint containers (empty or containing leftover paint)

- \$60 for a full standard bin (1m³)
- Or \$0.26 per paint container

#### **Spray paints**

- \$12 per full drum (205 litre)
- Or \$0.06 per spray paint can

- Paint containers must be collected in 1m³ bins which are supplied by Registered Processors
- Aerosol paint cans should be stored—separately from nonaerosol paint containers and HHW aerosols—in bins or drums



- 1. To be eligible for funding, the collected paint materials need to be picked up by a Registered Processor.
- 2. Once the Registered Processor has picked-up the paint bins, double check that the counts on the shipping document are accurate before signing.
- 3. Submit your paint claim to ARMA!

If you have questions about this process, there will be contact information in the resource section of this module.

## PAINT MATERIALS



SECTION 6

#### Registered Paint Processors:

https://www.albertarecycling.ca/processors/paint/

#### Materials included in the Paint Program:

https://www.albertarecycling.ca/programs/paint/

#### **Additional Training and Certification**

https://albertacare.org/programs/education-and-training.html

https://swananorthernlights.org/training/courses/

#### Additional questions?

**Email collection.sites@albertarecycling.ca**