



Connecticut Paint Stewardship Program

What Trade Painters Need To Know

A new Connecticut law affecting trade painters takes effect July 2013.

The new law requires paint manufacturers to add a stewardship assessment fee to architectural paint products, and pass the fee to distributors and retailers. Retailers must include the fee in their retail price, and may not sell brands from manufacturers not complying with the fee assessment.

Funds from the program will be used to collect, free of charge, leftover paint from residents and certain businesses. Paint drop-off sites will be set up at retail stores and other sites throughout the state.

New Paint Stewardship Program in Connecticut

The American Coatings Association (ACA) has worked for ten years with various stakeholders interested in the management of post-consumer paint to develop an industry-led paint stewardship program in the United States.

PaintCare Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, was established by the ACA to implement state-mandated paint stewardship programs on behalf of paint manufacturers in each state that adopts a paint stewardship law.

Oregon passed the first industry-supported paint stewardship law in 2009. California, Connecticut, and Rhode Island have since passed similar laws. More than 80 retail stores serve as drop-off sites in the Oregon program, and in its first two years, the program collected more than 1 million gallons of post-consumer paint. The California program began in October 2012 with more than 350 paint retailers participating as drop-off sites.

Connecticut's program is expected to begin in July 2013. The exact start date is 60 days after the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection approves a required

Stewardship Plan to be submitted by PaintCare on behalf of paint manufacturers. The plan is due March 1, 2013. Although the program is required by state law, it is being designed and operated by the paint manufacturing industry.

Assessment Fee and Funding

As required by the law, when the program starts, a paint stewardship assessment fee ("PaintCare Recovery Fee") must be added by manufacturers to the wholesale price of all architectural paint sold in the State of Connecticut. This fee will fund the collection, transportation, recycling and proper disposal of architectural paint. It will also pay for consumer education and administrative costs. Paint retailers and distributors will see this fee on their invoices from paint manufacturers. The law also requires each retailer and distributor to include the assessment fee in the purchase price of architectural paint sold in Connecticut. Displaying the fee on consumer receipts is not mandatory; however, PaintCare encourages retailers to do so to ensure fee transparency and aid in consumer education.

The fees in Connecticut will be proposed in PaintCare's Program Plan to be submitted to the State on March 1, 2013. Once the Program Plan is approved, the fees will be known.) Fees will be added to the price of paint when the program starts on July 1, 2013. (Fees will vary by container size.)



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Advance Notice for Trade Painters

It is expected that trade painters will pass the assessment fees on to their customers in order to recoup the assessment fees.

If you are estimating jobs for which architectural paint will be purchased after the program starts, you should take these fees into account by checking with your retail supplier to make sure the quotes for paint products include the fees. You should also let your customers know that you will be including these fees in your quotes.

Since fees may not be known in time for future bids, PaintCare suggests that painters discuss these fees with customers in advance, and incorporate language into bids and contracts to allow for an adjustment to the contract price once the fees are known and approved by the State.

New Paint Drop-Off Sites

PaintCare will establish paint drop-off sites across Connecticut. Most drop-off sites will be at paint retail stores. Other sites may include solid waste transfer stations, recycling centers, and government-sponsored household hazardous waste programs. Participation as a drop-off site is voluntary.

Use of Retail Collection Sites by Businesses

Retail sites will be added to the PaintCare Program and provide a no cost and a convenient recycling option for trade painters and other businesses. CESQG* businesses will be able to use these sites to recycle all program products (both water and solvent-based) with some restrictions on quantities per month. Larger businesses (those that generate more than 26 gallons of hazardous waste per month) will be able to use the PaintCare sites for their water-based program products only; they will not be able to use the sites for their solvent-based program products.

**A Conditionally Exempt Small Quantity Generator or CESQG is a business that generates less than 26 gallons of hazardous waste per month. Most small to medium-sized trade painters are CESQGs. Note: Latex paint is not a hazardous waste in Connecticut, and does not count toward the 26 gallon limit.*

What Products are Covered?

Architectural paints ("Program Products") are defined as interior and exterior architectural coatings sold in containers of 5 gallons or less. However, they do not include aerosol products (spray cans), industrial maintenance (IM), original equipment manufacturer (OEM), or specialty coatings.

PROGRAM PRODUCTS

These products have fees and are accepted at drop-off sites:

- Interior and exterior architectural paints: latex, acrylic, water-based, alkyd, oil-based, enamel (including textured coatings)
- Deck coatings, floor paints (including elastomeric)
- Primers, sealers, undercoaters
- Stains
- Shellacs, lacquers, varnishes, urethanes (single component)
- Waterproofing concrete/masonry/wood sealers and repellents (not tar or bitumen-based)
- Metal coatings, rust preventatives
- Field and lawn paints

NON-PROGRAM PRODUCTS

These products have no fees and are not accepted at drop-off sites:

- Paint thinners, mineral spirits, solvents
- Aerosol paints (spray cans)
- Auto and marine paints
- Art and craft paints
- Caulking compounds, epoxies, glues, adhesives
- Paint additives, colorants, tints, resins
- Wood preservatives (containing pesticides)
- Roof patch and repair
- Tar and bitumen-based products
- 2-component coatings
- Deck cleaners
- Traffic and road marking paints
- Industrial Maintenance (IM) coatings
- Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) (shop application) paints and finishes

Note: Leaking, unlabeled and empty containers are not accepted at drop-off sites.