



CITY OF TONAWANDA
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
150 FILLMORE AVENUE, TONAWANDA, NY 14150

Disposing of latex paint

Residents should be using one of the following methods to dry out **latex** paint. Once the latex paint has hardened or solidified, place the can with the **lid off** next to your garbage tote. The sanitation crew needs to see that the paint has been solidified.

- **Air:**
 - Remove the lid and let the paint dry out in the can
 - Protect from freezing and rain as well as curious children and animals
 - This only works when an inch or less of paint is left in the can and is most effective in the warmer months
- **Cat litter:**
 - Mix latex paint with an equal amount of **clay-based** cat litter
 - Stir in completely and let the paint dry. It takes about 10 minutes for the cat litter to harden
 - Add more cat litter if the paint is soft or runny after 10 minutes. Repeat until the material is very thick
 - Sawdust, dirt, and shredded paper can be tried as alternatives to cat litter
 - If there is not enough room in the paint can to stir in enough cat litter to dry it all out, pour off paint into any plastic or cardboard container that is large enough to hold the material, including a yogurt container, plastic tub, shoebox, or other convenient container
- **Paint hardener:**
 - Mix latex paint with commercial paint hardener according to the directions.
 - At the end of that time, paint will have a tacky, oatmeal-like consistency that will not spill out
- **Other ideas of using up latex paint:**
 - Use the paint when painting a garage, dog house or use as a primer coat for another painting project
 - Donate excess paint to a school, theater group or non-profit agency

Be sure it's latex paint! Look on the label for the word "latex," or for directions to clean up or thin with water.

Oil-based paint

Oil-based paint, stains, solvents and other hazardous products are **NOT ACCEPTED** for curb side pick-up in the City of Tonawanda. Oil-based paint is hazardous and must be disposed of at a household hazardous waste collection site (see below).



177 Wales Avenue

Tonawanda, NY 14150

(716) 998-8073

Open Monday – Friday from 8am-4pm

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