

# Washington Tees up New Legislation to Match Oregon's Success

## Why is paint stewardship the preferred option for Washington?

A paint stewardship program for Washington will provide residents and small businesses, including painting contractors, with more convenient collection sites across the state for both latex and oil-based paint. Stewardship programs utilize and expand the collection and recycling infrastructure to increase the amount of unwanted paint that is collected, reused, recycled, or used for fuel. Comparing current paint programs in Washington with the Oregon paint stewardship pilot program (operating since July 2010) illustrates the successes of Oregon's sustainable paint stewardship program.

Washington's Existing Paint Programs	Oregon Paint Stewardship System (started July 2010)
<b>Collection Services</b>	
<p><b>50 fixed collection sites located in 31 of 39 counties.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16 counties do not collect latex paint (60% of the state's population).</li> <li>8 counties do not have permanent collection sites.</li> <li>21 of 39 counties provide paint collection service to small quantity generator businesses.</li> </ul>	<p><b>100 fixed collection sites located in 30 of 36 counties.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>95% of Oregon residents have access to a collection site with 15 miles of their homes.</li> <li>ALL sites accept both latex and oil-based paint.</li> <li>ALL sites serve small businesses.</li> </ul>
<b>Performance</b>	
<p><b>38% of unwanted paint was collected in 2010, equal to 0.075 gallons per capita.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Latex paint collection has declined by 44% since 2007, since many local governments stopped collecting latex paint.</li> </ul>	<p><b>80% of unwanted paint was collected in 2011–2012, equal to 0.16 gallons per capita.</b></p>
<b>Latex Recycling</b>	
<p><b>44% of latex paint collected was recycled or reused in 2010.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9% was incinerated for energy recovery.</li> <li>47% was solidified and disposed of in landfills.</li> </ul>	<p><b>75% of all latex paint collected was recycled or reused in 2011–2012.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10% was used as fuel or incinerated for energy recovery.</li> <li>15% of latex paint was disposed in landfills, with some used in a biodegradation research project.</li> </ul>
<b>Operation and Financing</b>	
<p><b>Local government programs manage 94% of the unwanted paint collected in Washington.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financed by ratepayers and taxpayers.</li> <li>Residents are not charged to bring paint to a collection site.</li> <li>In some counties, small businesses are charged \$2-4 per gallon to bring paint to a collection site for recycling.</li> </ul>	<p><b>A nonprofit stewardship organization, PaintCare, manages the program on behalf of the paint manufacturers.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Financed by an assessment built into the sale price of paint paid by paint users.</li> <li>Residents are not charged to bring paint to a collection site.</li> <li>Small businesses are not charged to bring paint to a collection site.</li> </ul>
<b>Costs</b>	
<p><b>\$2.9 million paid by local governments in 2010.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not include administrative, facilities operations, or outreach/education costs to local governments.</li> </ul>	<p><b>PaintCare program cost \$3.8 million in its second year (2011-2012).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the first 2 years of the program, PaintCare spent \$3.4 million dollars on recycling/disposition costs. Prior to the PaintCare program these costs were paid by local governments.</li> </ul>



## Industry supports paint stewardship

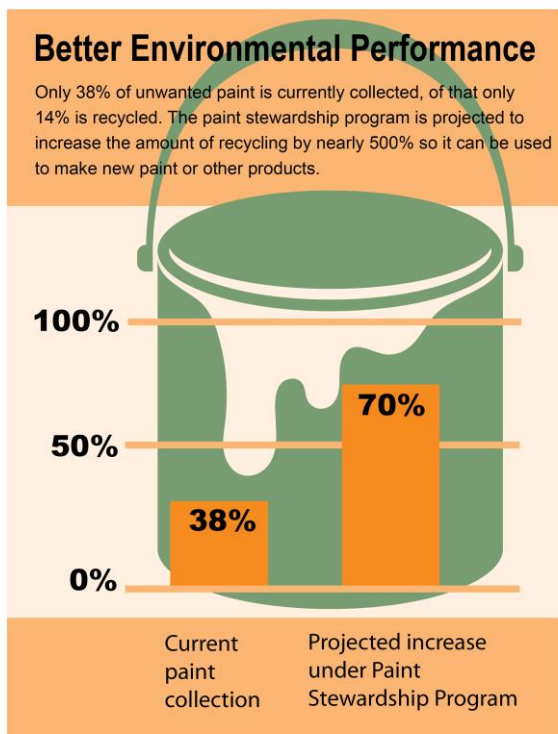
Legislation for paint stewardship is backed by the American Coatings Association, which represents companies and professionals working in the paint and coatings industry. ACA supports stewardship legislation authorizing the paint manufacturers to finance and manage a paint stewardship program to recycle unwanted architectural paint. Similar industry-supported legislation has been enacted in Oregon, California, Connecticut, and Rhode Island.



## Managed by private-sector businesses specializing in paint recycling

The paint industry has the experience and tools to hit the ground running in Washington, including an established stewardship organization, promotional materials, and relationships with the paint recycling industry. A statewide program managed by the paint industry cuts down on duplicative efforts of government agencies and takes advantage of economies of scale and the existing infrastructure.

It's expensive to manage paint properly and there's a lot of it. Local governments, which handle nearly all the paint collected, will save an estimated \$1.2 million per year under a paint stewardship program.



## Grows Washington business

The number of collection sites for both latex and oil-based paint will increase from 50 to more than 200 sites across Washington. More collection sites mean more foot traffic in paint stores and more paint available for recycling, which in turn attracts paint recyclers to our region. The E-Cycle Washington electronics stewardship program, which has been operating since 2009, attracted two new electronics processors and approximately 80 new jobs to our state.

## Fair financing

The stewardship program is funded by a small assessment built into the purchase price of paint. Consumers and businesses that don't use paint don't pay for the program. This sustained funding source can be used to pay for multiple collection methods and types, such as paint stores, transfer stations, and government-operated facilities.

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**Northwest Product Stewardship Council**

[www.productstewardship.net](http://www.productstewardship.net)

Sources: PaintCare, 2012 and 2011 Oregon Paint Stewardship Pilot Program Annual Reports, [www.paintcare.org](http://www.paintcare.org); NW PSC and King County, Management of Unwanted Architectural Paint in Washington, prepared by Cascadia Consulting Group and DSM Environmental, January 2013, [www.productstewardship.net](http://www.productstewardship.net)