

Paint Stewardship Bill

House Bill 1652 – Concerning paint stewardship

Problems with paint



- An estimated 10% of all house paint that is purchased goes unused. In Washington State, that amounts to **1.5 to 2 million gallons of unwanted paint every year.**
- **It is easy to recycle latex paint.** Oil paint can be re-used or must be treated as a hazardous material and safely disposed.
- **We don't want to send paint to the landfill.** Unfortunately, most of Washington's local jurisdiction solid waste programs can't afford to manage paint and so residents are advised to harden paint and send it to the landfill.

Washington's legislation builds on other existing state laws and a well-recognized national program

- **Eight states and the District of Columbia have paint stewardship laws in place.** This bill is based on these laws.
- The paint manufacturing industry operates stewardship programs through their non-profit, **PaintCare, which has collected over 27 million gallons of paint nationally** since 2010.
- **GreenSheen, a latex paint recycling company, began operations in Washington State in 2018.** They offer paint recycling services for a fee. In the final 9 months of 2018, GreenSheen Paint collected over 500,000 pounds of latex paint for recycling. GreenSheen Paint is ready to recycle as much paint as Washington can collect, **adding jobs right here in Washington.**



What the bill does

- HB 1652 would require **paint manufacturers to establish and finance a recycling program** for leftover paint.
- **A fee would be added to paint that is sold at retail.** Revenue collected based on retail sales of paint in Washington State is held by the stewardship organization and cannot be re-directed for any other purpose.
- Residents and businesses would be able to **drop off all of their leftover paint for free** at convenient locations, such as paint stores and hardware stores, as well as transfer stations.
- **Latex paint would be recycled into paint** that is then sold for about half price at locations such as Habitat for Humanity (\$16/gallon versus ~\$32/gallon for new). Oil paint would be re-used or safely disposed.

