

# How Does the Paint Assessment Work?



## The Paint Stewardship Bill

The Paint Stewardship Bill would establish a statewide system to collect and manage unwanted and leftover architectural paint from residents and eligible businesses. The paint management system is funded through an assessment on paint sales, which pays for leftover paint collection, transportation, recycling, proper disposal, and consumer education—and reduces the cost burden to local governments.



### Assessment on paint sales paid by manufacturers, recovered from consumers

The nominal assessment on paint sales—called the “recovery fee”—is currently being collected in Oregon and California. The assessment ranges from free to \$1.60, depending on container size.



**Step 1:** Manufacturers pay the assessment directly to the non-profit Stewardship Organization on the number of containers of paint sold into Washington State each month.



**Step 2:** The assessment is added to the wholesale price of paint. All retailers pay the same assessment when they buy their paint from a manufacturer or distributor (wholesaler).



**Step 3:** Retailers then pass the assessment to their customers when they purchase paint. **The retailer has the OPTION to display the assessment on customer receipts or to include it in the total price.** The amount paid by the consumer to the retailer offsets the assessment charged by the paint wholesaler to the retailer, so that the retailer does not bear the cost of the assessment.

Materials will be made available that explain the assessment, including posters, brochures and cards. For more information, view the video produced by PaintCare explaining the role of retailers in the Oregon program: <http://youtu.be/3E3RwhjsQdU>.

## How Does the Paint Assessment Work? *cont.*



### What does the paint assessment cost in Oregon and California?



#### Sources:

PaintCare, "California Paint Stewardship Program: Information for Paint Retailers," October 2012, [http://www.paintcare.org/docs/ca\\_retailer\\_factsheet1.pdf](http://www.paintcare.org/docs/ca_retailer_factsheet1.pdf).  
PaintCare, "California Paint Stewardship Program: Assessment Fees," October 2012, [http://www.paintcare.org/docs/ca\\_retailer\\_factsheet2.pdf](http://www.paintcare.org/docs/ca_retailer_factsheet2.pdf).  
PaintCare, Oregon Paint Stewardship Pilot Program Annual Report 2012, September 2012, [http://www.paintcare.org/docs/paintcare\\_oregon\\_annual\\_report\\_2012.pdf](http://www.paintcare.org/docs/paintcare_oregon_annual_report_2012.pdf).  
PaintCare, "New Paint Product Stewardship Pilot Program in Oregon," accessed February 21, 2013, [http://www.paintcare.org/docs/retailer\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.paintcare.org/docs/retailer_factsheet.pdf).

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Northwest Product Stewardship Council

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#### Paint retailers role:

In the stewardship program, paint retailers in Washington would:

- 1 Include the assessment for paint recovery to the architectural paint products they sell.
- 2 Make sure they do not sell unregistered paint brands.
- 3 If they choose to do so, retailers may volunteer to be paint drop-off sites for residents and eligible businesses in their community.

