

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTIONS

The Illinois EPA conducts periodic HHW collection events throughout Illinois each year. Ogle County tries to host these events when available.

The collections are free for Ogle and Lee County residents. All wastes are handled, transported and disposed of properly by a licensed contractor.

The City of Rockford and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency co-sponsor a permanent site for the collection and proper disposal of HHW. It is available to any resident of Illinois at the following location:

Rock River Water Reclamation District
3333 Kishwaukee Street
Rockford, IL
Hours: Saturday 8 :00 am—4:00 pm
Sunday, 12 noon—4:00 pm

For more information concerning the Rock River Water Reclamation District HHW Site contact:

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
217-785-8604
www.epa.state.il.us

Or:

www.oglecounty.org

General Tips for Handling and Disposing of Household Hazardous Products

- * Buy only the quantities you need.
- * Keep products in their original containers. Store them according to label directions.
- * Avoid skin contact and vapors.
- * NEVER mix different products. Violent chemical reactions may occur.
- * If products exceed your needs, ask friends, neighbors, or charitable organizations if they want them.
- * Always dispose of these products in an approved manner, or take them to a household hazardous waste collection.



Household Paint Disposal



Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department

909 Pines Road
Oregon, IL 61061
815-732-4020
www.oglecounty.org



Each year, thousands of gallons of leftover or unwanted paint, solvents and thinners are flushed down sinks and drains or dumped into trash cans. These actions can overwhelm septic & sewer systems, and potentially damage landfill liners. The resulting contamination can pollute surface and underground water, the same water we all depend on for consumption and recreation. You can help ease these threats to human health and the environment by following a few simple steps.



LATEX PAINT

Please don't bring latex paint to household hazardous waste (HHW) collections. Today's latex (water-based) paint has a very low level of toxicity. Disposing of it at a HHW collection day is very expensive. Therefore the Illinois EPA encourages people with unwanted latex paint to use other options.

DISPOSAL OPTIONS

If you have some paint left over after you are done painting, put on another coat. It's a little more work but you will be rid of that extra paint and the walls will look great.

If you have old latex paint, use a piece of cardboard, some scrap lumber, or the inside of your garage and use the paint on that. Leave the can open to dry completely and then recycle or dispose of it.

Kitty litter, sawdust, shredded paper can be used to speed up the solidification of the paint. Just add the absorbent to the can and mix it up. Or use a large box lined with a trash bag to mix and dry the paint. When it is solid, it can be disposed of in your trash.

You may be able to find someone who needs to paint a small area. Some schools or local theatres will take some small amounts of paint for scenery.

If you are storing it for touch-ups later on, follow these easy tips. Cover the opening with plastic wrap, put the lid on securely and turn the paint can upside down. This creates a tight seal, and keeps the paint fresh to use again.

SOLVENT-BASED PAINTS

Unusable solvent or oil-based paints are hazardous, ignitable, and should always be used up or taken to a local HHW collection center or event so they can be disposed of or recycled safely. Examples are alkyd, linseed, stain, varnish, lacquer and enamel.

SOLVENTS

Never pour paint thinners, turpentine, mineral spirits or other solvents down any drain or sewer, never dump them on land or in any waterway.

You can recycle used solvents by allowing paint pigments to settle to the bottom, and later pouring the clarified liquid into a new or recycled (and accurately labeled) container for reuse. Take the remaining solvent/paint sludge to a HHW collection site for disposal.

