

New Hanover County Department of Environmental Management

Paint Waste Policy and Procedures

Policy:

It shall be the policy of the Department of Environmental Management (Department) to comply with all applicable State and Federal rules regarding the disposal of paint waste in North Carolina.

It shall be the policy of the Department to accept paint waste at both WASTEC and the landfill as paint waste is a component of municipal solid waste. The disposal facilities shall accept paint waste generated by both homeowners and painting contractors within New Hanover County.

It shall be the policy of the Department that industrial sources of paint waste must perform a waste determination of their waste as prescribed under RCRA rules to ensure that it does not meet the definition of hazardous waste. The Department will consider each request from an industrial paint waste generator on an individual basis.

Procedures:

The definition of paint waste is understood to include latex and oil-based paints, lacquer thinner, spray paint, paint strippers, mineral spirits, varnishes, wood stains, used brushes and rollers etc.

Homeowners

Homeowners shall be instructed to solidify their paint waste by removing the lid or by adding an absorbent material such as sawdust, kitty litter, sand etc. Once the paint waste has been solidified, it may be placed in their cart for pickup and disposal with other municipal solid waste. Homeowners may choose to separate and bring their paint waste to one of our disposal facilities. There shall be no limit on the number of containers or volume (gallons).

When homeowners arrive at the landfill with liquid paint waste for disposal, they shall be directed to the WASTEC facility during normal business days/hours.

When homeowners arrive at the landfill with solidified paint waste for disposal, they shall be directed to the proper disposal drop-off area and charged at the prevailing rate for municipal solid waste.

When homeowners arrive at WASTEC with liquid or solidified paint waste for disposal, they shall be directed to the proper drop-off area and charged at the prevailing rate for municipal solid waste.

Contractors

Paint contractors may deliver paint waste to both WASTEC and the landfill for disposal. When a paint contractor arrives at the landfill with paint waste for disposal, they shall be informed that no liquid paint waste will be accepted. Once it has been confirmed that all paint waste is solidified, they shall be directed to the proper disposal drop-off area and charged at the prevailing rate for municipal solid waste.

When a paint contractor arrives at WASTEC with liquid or solidified paint waste for disposal, they shall be directed to the proper drop-off area and charged at the prevailing rate for municipal solid waste. There shall be no limit on the number of containers or volume (gallons).