

## PAINT

Paint is often purchased in larger quantities than needed. This excess purchasing impacts budgets and can result in large amounts of paint waste from household and commercial projects. Consider the following tips when planning a painting project:

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### Waste Prevention & Recycling

- Plan ahead by determining the size of area you will be painting (see the link to the Paint Calculator below).
- Buy neutral colors in bulk with the intention of using for multiple projects.
- Consider donating excess usable paint to a local organization in need or listing on the [Minnesota Materials Exchange](#).
- Recycle your leftover paint at a local recycling center or Household Hazardous Waste facility.
- Latex paint can be reprocessed into recycled paint, often costing less than non-recycled paint.
- If using oil-based paint, purchase only needed quantities and if there is waste from one project, save and use for another project.

### Environmentally Preferable Purchasing

- Purchase paint with 20%-100% recycled content.
- Avoid oil-based paints whenever possible, opting for latex instead.
- Select paint with no or low-VOC, low-odor, and APE-free (alkylphenol ethoxylates)

### Green Building

- Paint can be a contributor to a variety of health problems for building occupants. Selecting eco-friendly paint is one step to a healthier work environment.
- USGBC LEED certification includes credit for Indoor Environmental Air Quality. Selecting environmentally preferable paint options helps to achieve credit in this area.
- Paints with IR (infrared reflective) pigments can reduce heat transfer and result in energy cost savings from a reduction in heating and cooling costs.

## RESOURCES

## **Amazon Environmental**

Minnesota-based Amazon Environmental is the nation's leading paint recycler. Amazon accepts latex paint from businesses and Household Hazardous Waste facilities. High-quality paint is recycled into premium Amazon Select recycled paint, which is available at Amazon's factory-direct outlet store in Fridley and at participating Ace Hardware stores. Non-reusable paint is made into an ingredient in cement manufacture, allowing Amazon to recycle virtually 100% of the paint it receives, diverting this material from area landfills. Many Minnesota Ace Hardware stores carry Amazon Select recycled content paint. Contact Amazon at 763-572-0800 or visit [www.amazonpaint.com](http://www.amazonpaint.com) for more information.

## **Paint Calculator (Local Governments for Health and the Environment)**

Plan ahead to purchase only the amount needed. [Click here](#) to view the paint calculator.

## **IN THE NEWS**

Waste & Recycling News, July 29, 2009

"Hotel Firm to Replace Fluorescents with Low-Mercury Bulbs"

[www.wasterecyclingnews.com/headlines2.html?id=1248877602&allowcomm=true](http://www.wasterecyclingnews.com/headlines2.html?id=1248877602&allowcomm=true)

The Daily Planet, July 21, 2009

"\$10,000 Grant Will Enhance Seward Co-op's Stormwater Raingarden"

[www.tcdailyplanet.net/article/2009/06/30/10000-grant-will-enhance-seward-co-op%E2%80%99s-stormwater-raingarden.html](http://www.tcdailyplanet.net/article/2009/06/30/10000-grant-will-enhance-seward-co-op%E2%80%99s-stormwater-raingarden.html)

## **EVENTS**

### **The Minnesota Road Show: Duluth Fleet Efficiency Workshop**

The 2009 Minnesota Road Show offers a series of four informative half-day conferences in four Minnesota cities - Duluth, Rochester, St. Cloud and the Twin Cities.

#### **Duluth Workshop**

**Tuesday, August 25, 2009**

**7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**University of Minnesota Duluth**

**Solon Campus Center**

To register for the Duluth workshop, visit [www.mnwastewise.org](http://www.mnwastewise.org).

## **2009 LEADER AWARD APPLICATIONS NOW ACCEPTED**

The Minnesota Waste Wise Leader Award is given annually to members who have shown leadership in environmental sustainability. Winners are announced at the Annual Meeting in October, and there is no limit to the number of awards given each year. Visit

[www.mnwastewise.org](http://www.mnwastewise.org) to download the Leader Award application and instructions. *The application deadline is August 15, 2009.* Please contact Kate Worley at [kworley@mnchamber.com](mailto:kworley@mnchamber.com) for more information or questions.

## **SEND US YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS!**

Let us know how you're doing! Send us your achievements in environmental sustainability – waste reduction, recycling, energy efficiency, purchasing, and cost savings. Contact Kate Worley at [kworley@mnchamber.com](mailto:kworley@mnchamber.com) for an easy-to-use tracking form or to submit your business's or organization's achievements in environmental sustainability.

### **NEW MEMBER UPDATE**

Fifth Street Towers (Minneapolis)  
Minnesota Zoo (Apple Valley)  
Wirtz Beverage Minnesota (St. Paul)

### **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**

Not a member but would like to join? Are you a current member wanting to take full advantage of your member benefits? Contact Kate Worley at (651) 292-4662 or [kworley@mnchamber.com](mailto:kworley@mnchamber.com).

Disclosure: Wise Mail is a tool to inform our members of current events or waste issues. The content of Wise Mail is for educational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. Minnesota Waste Wise does not endorse any of the following waste services, organizations or events. Any such portrayal is unintentional by Minnesota Waste Wise.