



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Paint Recycling Program Plan Approved

Vermont PaintCare Program Set to Begin May 1, 2014

MONTPELIER, VT - PaintCare, a Washington, DC-based product stewardship organization for the paint industry, and the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources are pleased to announce the official approval of the program plan for the responsible recycling of unused and leftover paint in the state. The legislation making the program possible (Act 58) was signed into law by Governor Shumlin in 2013. The program will begin May 1.

"Vermont is an environmental leader," said Agency of Natural Resources Secretary Deb Markowitz. "The launch of our paint recycling program offers another easy and responsible way for Vermonters to recycle, while saving money for our municipalities and businesses."

PaintCare, created by the American Coatings Association representing paint manufacturers, is a non-profit organization tasked with implementing programs in states that pass paint stewardship laws. PaintCare will set up drop-off collection sites for leftover paint that will be permanent and open year-round. The non-profit will also conduct public outreach and education about the program. Vermont is the fourth state to implement a paint stewardship law. PaintCare currently has programs in California, Oregon and Connecticut, and is launching programs in Rhode Island, Minnesota and Maine.

The new law requires that paint manufacturers create and fund an easy-to-use, cost-effective and environmentally responsible program to manage unused or leftover house paint, stains and varnish in Vermont. The programs are funded by a minimal fee applied to the purchase price of paint at retail establishments throughout the state. The recovery fee will range from \$0.35 to \$1.60 depending on paint container size.

For the convenience of both residents and businesses, most new PaintCare drop-off sites will be at paint stores, which are permanent and open during regular business hours year-round. This will reduce the need for homeowners, paint contractors and others with unwanted paint to rush out to participate in municipal one-day only household hazardous waste collection events in their area. Waste transfer stations and some municipal household hazardous waste locations across Vermont may also serve as drop-off sites.

To view the approved program plan, please visit www.anr.state.vt.us/dec/wastediv/HHW/paint.htm. And for more information on PaintCare and paint recycling in Vermont please visit www.paintcare.org/vermont.

About PaintCare

PaintCare is a non-profit organization established by the American Coatings Association to implement Paint Stewardship Programs on behalf of paint manufacturers in states that pass paint stewardship laws. To learn more about PaintCare, please visit www.paintcare.org.

Media Contacts

Kate Paine, Marketing Partners (on behalf of PaintCare)

P. 802.864.6710

C. 802.272.2929

kpaine@marketing-partners.com

Cathy Jamieson, Vermont Dept. of Environmental Conservation

P. 802.522.5938

cathy.jamieson@state.vt.us
