



Drop & Swap Managing Unused Latex Paint

September 12th – East Aurora, NY



Benefits

- Reduces the amount of good latex paint wasted
- Reduces \$ spent on disposal / recycling
- Great free product!
- Relatively easy to develop & maintain by leveraging an existing facility & personnel
 - HHW collection event
 - MSW transfer station

Considerations

Paint must be in good condition

- Cans should be at least ½ full
- Check for
 - mold or other contaminants
 - strong rancid odor (chemical odor is good)
 - solvent has separated from the solids & the two don't mix when stirred
 - clumps that don't separate when stirred
 - inconsistent color after being stirred
 - cans not rusting

Considerations

- Needs some monitoring by staff or volunteers
- Proper storage
 - designated paint shed with shelves
 - containment/cleanup materials
 - protection from freezing temps
- Marketing & outreach



The Latex Paint Exchange
Fulton County, NY

Considerations

Need to manage paint that is not swapped

- Arrange donation to local organization
- Blend & use for public buildings
- Dispose / recycle



The Paint Exchange
Scituate, MA

Fulton County

- Swapped 340 gallons - 2012
(3,793 since 2001)
- Summer only at solid waste transfer station
- Stored in a pre-existing shed
- Un-swapped paint is donated to local community theater (only 15 cans in 2012)





Fulton County (continued)

- Unusable paint combined with other collected on HHW day (at end of season) - dried out by staff & disposed of as solid waste
- Program cost is mostly staff time: seasonal summer staff on Saturdays, and supervisor about three hours/week



Chenango County

- Swap 300-400 cans of latex paint per season
- Liability forms signed at drop-off & pick-up
- Spring & summer at existing transfer station (Tuesday – Friday)
- Stored in unheated building
- Staff sort usable paint by color and place on shelves



Chenango County (continued)

- Staff inspect each can. If it looks bad they still accept it, but inform the resident why the paint can't be part of the exchange program
- Unusable paint is dried out by staff & disposed
- "Good" leftovers consolidated & re-blended by local paint manufacturer & given back to the County for free