Managing Unused Latex Paint
Focus on Rural Communities in Erie County

September 12th – East Aurora, NY

Why Focus on Waste Paint?

• Large volume:
  – 2.3 gallons of paint sold/person/year
  – ~80% is latex
  – ~10% is leftover
  – ~ 210,000 gallons leftover/year in Erie County

• Costly to manage
  – latex does overwhelm HHW collections
  – disposal is not free ~$29,000 cost in 2013
  – Approximately 24,000 gallons
Why Focus on Waste Paint?

• Creates issues for transfer stations and HHW collections
  – Liquids leak from equipment at transfer stations or over the road
  – Single largest item at HHW events, creating longer wait times and higher costs

• Disposal is a waste of valuable resources!

Current Management Options

• Oil-based: HHW collection events or facilities
• Latex: dry out or mix to make solid & dispose in the trash

Proper management is not convenient
  – Leads to accumulation
  – Improper disposal
USDA Waste Paint Project

• Priority waste for Northeast states
• Asked NEWMOA to apply for funding
• Focus on rural areas:
  – communities in Maine, New York, and Vermont volunteered
• Promote strategies to:
  – prevent paint waste
  – increase reuse & recycling

Erie County Workgroup

Project Partners:
• Erie County Department of Environment & Planning
• New York State Dept. of Environmental Conservation

Additional stakeholders:
• Municipalities – Towns of Newstead & Brant, and Village of Akron
• HHW Contractor - Hazman
Project Activities

• To Date:
  – several conference calls to discuss issues & potential options
  – developed brochure on leftover latex paint best management practices – handout
  – organized this workshop

Now the Fun Stuff

• Coming Up:
  – handout for consumers with local info
  – develop recommendations & next steps

• Our Speakers
  – Jennifer Griffith from NEWMOA
  – Gary Feinland from NYSDEC
  – Sarah Battaglia from Hazman
  – Ida Arabshahi from PaintCare