Waste Paint Solutions

**Issue** – Drop & Swap is only a solution for leftover paint in directly reusable condition

– Only 20 to 35% of what is collected by programs that accept all latex paint can be reused without processing

**What could be better?**
Recycling!

Collect & send to a facility that manufacturers recycled paint

Benefits:
• Take all latex paint (good & bad condition)
• Most of the leftover paint & packaging materials collected are diverted from disposal
• High percentage is reused as paint
• Highest & best use of all components
  – Metal & plastic cans recycled
  – Solids can be used as an additive in cement production

Incoming Cans

Photo Courtesy of GDB International
### Considerations

- $ - manufactures charge a fee (~15¢/lb)
  - charge a drop-off fee to help offset
- Collection requires staff or volunteers
  - recyclers only take latex paint
  - also need to pack shipping container(s)
- Recyclers not located in the northeast
  - transport = $
- Need about 4,000 cans for a truckload
  - requires proper storage
  - team up with other towns for a “milk run”

### Closing-the-Loop

- Need markets for recycled paint
  - Demand helps drive activity
- Comparable quality at ~ half the price
- Ideas?
  - Ask retailers to stock
  - Spec in government contracts
    - Local
    - State
  - Others?