Recycling
Managing Unused Latex Paint

October 1st – Melrose, NY

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!

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
Recycling Process

Photos Courtesy of GDB International

Recycling Maximized

Photos 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?